SkillSelect Invitation Received?

Your Post-Invitation Readiness Checklist

A printable checklist for people invited by Home Affairs to apply for the Skilled Independent visa (subclass 189) or the Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa (subclass 491). It covers the points-tested invitation process. It is general information, not legal or migration advice, and it does not assess whether you qualify. Every rule below comes from Home Affairs' pages, read on 3 November 2026. Where the pages do not say something, this checklist says so instead of guessing. Your invitation email and your ImmiAccount always come first.

The 60-day rule. Home Affairs says you have 60 calendar days from the date of your invitation to apply, and it cannot extend this time. An invitation is not a visa: you must still show you meet the points score on your invitation and every other criterion, and Home Affairs may refuse the application.

1. Invitation details

- ☐ Find the SkillSelect invitation email. Home Affairs says you will receive an email from SkillSelect if you are invited.
- ☐ Note the invitation date, the visa subclass and, for the 491, whether you were invited as Family Sponsored or State/Territory Nominated.
- ☐ Check the points score the invitation states. Home Affairs says it is the score you must meet when your application is assessed, and it may be higher than 65 depending on your claims.

  Source: Home Affairs subclass 189 page (read 3 Nov 2026).
- ☐ Note whether this is your first or second invitation. Home Affairs will invite you to apply for the visa only twice, and your EOI is removed if you do not apply after the second invitation.

Invitation date _____

Visa subclass / stream _____

Points score stated on the invitation _____

Invitation number (1st or 2nd) _____

2. Application deadline

- ☐ Write down your last day to lodge. Home Affairs says you have 60 calendar days from the date of your invitation to apply and that it cannot extend this time.

  Source: Home Affairs subclass 189 and 491 pages (read 3 Nov 2026). The 491 page does not give a different period for Family Sponsored or State/Territory Nominated.
- ☐ Confirm the exact last day in your invitation email and ImmiAccount. Do not plan to lodge on the last day.
- ☐ Understand the four different things: (a) receiving the invitation, (b) preparing your documents, (c) lodging a valid application in ImmiAccount and paying the first instalment of the application charge, (d) the date by which it must be lodged. Only (c) before (d) counts.
- ☐ If you cannot show you meet the points score on your invitation and the other criteria, Home Affairs says not to apply.

Last day to lodge (confirm with your invitation) _____

Date I plan to lodge _____

3. Identity documents

- ☐ Passport pages showing your photo, personal details, and passport issue and expiry dates.

  Source: Home Affairs 189 and 491 pages.
- ☐ National identity card, if you have one.
- ☐ Proof of any change of name (for example a marriage or divorce certificate, or change-of-name documents).

Passport number and expiry date _____

4. Passport validity

- ☐ Note your passport expiry date. The Home Affairs pages we read state no minimum passport validity, so this is our suggestion, not an official rule: renew early if the expiry date is close.
- ☐ Keep colour scans of every page that has a stamp, visa or personal details.

5. English test validity

- ☐ Home Affairs says that at the time of invitation you must have at least competent English, and that you provide proof of it.

  Source: Home Affairs 189 and 491 pages.

- ☐ Check the validity period for your test on Home Affairs' English language pages. The visa pages give no test window, and the competent English page refers to test results within 3 years before your visa application, depending on the visa subclass.

  We could not confirm which of the two anchors applies to you. Ask a registered migration agent if unsure.

- ☐ Home Affairs does not accept English tests delivered completely online (remote-proctored or at-home).

Test name, date and result _____

6. Skills assessment validity and relevance

- ☐ Home Affairs says your skills assessment must have been obtained in the 3 years before the date of your invitation, and that if it was issued for a shorter period that period must not have passed.

  Source: Home Affairs 189 and 491 pages. The page also describes a view that an assessment obtained within the 60-day invitation period is accepted; check the current wording.

- ☐ Check that the assessment is for your nominated occupation, and keep a copy to attach to your application.
- ☐ Check your assessment is still the right one for the occupation on your EOI and invitation.

Assessing authority and date issued _____

7. Employment evidence

- ☐ Gather evidence for each period you claimed: employment references, contracts, payslips, tax statements, payment summaries or superannuation information.

  Home Affairs: the evidence must relate to employment before the date of invitation.

- ☐ Employment references should be on official letterhead, show the organisation's full street address, the exact period of employment, each position, duties, hours and salary, and the name and position of the person signing.
- ☐ Check each period meets Home Affairs' definition: skilled employment in your nominated or a closely related occupation, in the 10 years before the invitation, at least 20 hours a week.

  Source: Home Affairs points table (read 3 Nov 2026).

8. Educational qualifications

- ☐ Gather certificates and transcripts for the qualification you claimed. Points are awarded for your highest qualification only.
- ☐ If you claimed the Australian study requirement, regional study, specialist education (STEM) or a Professional Year, gather the specific evidence each one needs. Use the points table to check.

  Source: Home Affairs points table.

9. Work experience records

- [ ] List every employer, job title, start and end date and weekly hours, and match each to a reference or payslip.
- [ ] For employment in Australia, check you held a substantive visa or a Bridging A or Bridging B visa and complied with its conditions to claim points.

Source: Home Affairs points table.

10. Health examinations

- [ ] You and any family who apply with you must meet the health requirement. Home Affairs says it prefers that 189 applicants have health checks before they apply.

Source: Home Affairs 189 page. The 491 page does not state that preference.

- [ ] Check whether you can use My Health Declarations before you apply. Do not use it if your visa is not listed there or you have already lodged.
- [ ] If you did not have examinations before applying, Home Affairs will tell you whether you need them. Check ImmiAccount for 'Organise health examinations' and your HAP ID.
- [ ] In Australia, arrange examinations with Bupa Medical Visa Services. Outside Australia, use an approved panel physician or clinic. Results are generally valid for 12 months, and you pay for the examinations.

Source: Home Affairs health pages (read 3 Nov 2026).

Date of my health examinations _____

11. Character and police clearances

- [ ] You and family members aged 16 and over who apply with you must meet the character requirement.
- [ ] If you spent a total of 12 months or more in Australia in the last 10 years since you turned 16, provide an Australian Federal Police complete disclosure National Police Certificate. Australian certificates are valid for 12 months from issue.
- [ ] Provide an overseas police certificate from every country, including your home country, where you spent a total of 12 months or more in the last 10 years since you turned 16. Military service records or discharge papers if you served in armed forces.

Home Affairs does not state a validity period for overseas certificates on the pages we read.

- [ ] Complete Form 80 and Form 1221 if the application requires them. Declare all criminal conduct truthfully.

Source: Home Affairs 189, 491 and character pages.

12. Family member documentation

- [ ] Partner: identity documents and photos, character documents, marriage certificate if applicable, and evidence of the relationship (for a de facto partner, at least 12 months before you apply, or registration).
- [ ] Dependent children: birth certificates or the family book showing both parents. Form 1229 or a statutory declaration for a child under 18 where a parent is not migrating. Form 47a and proof of financial dependency for dependants aged 18 or over.
- [ ] Check English proof for a partner or adult dependant. Home Affairs says a second instalment of the application charge may apply if an applicant aged 18 or over has less than functional English.
- [ ] If your partner or children are not in the application, be ready to say why.

13. Supporting evidence for your points claims

- [ ] Home Affairs says you must provide documents to prove all the claims in your EOI. Tick each claim and its evidence: skills assessment, English, Australian and overseas employment, qualifications, Australian study requirement, specialist education, community language, regional study, partner skills, Professional Year.

Source: Home Affairs 189 and 491 pages.

- [ ] Do not claim a point you cannot prove. If you cannot meet the points score on your invitation, do not apply.

14. Application form review

- ☐ Provide accurate information. Check every date, name and number against your documents.
- ☐ Translate every non-English document into English. Translators in Australia must be NAATI-accredited. Outside Australia the translator must include their name, address, telephone number, qualifications and experience. Provide original and translated documents. Home Affairs says you do not need to have documents certified.
- ☐ Scan or photograph documents in colour and clearly. If a document is more than one page, save it as one file.
- ☐ If a registered migration agent or other representative will act for you, you need the relevant appointment form (Form 956 or 956A).

15. Preparing to submit

- ☐ Log in to SkillSelect, click 'Apply for visa' on the invitation, and sign in to ImmiAccount. Your ImmiAccount login is not the same as your SkillSelect login.
- ☐ Check the cost with Home Affairs' Visa Pricing Estimator. It does not include the second instalment or costs for health checks, police certificates and biometrics.
- ☐ Attach your documents, pay the application charge, and note your transaction reference number (TRN). Home Affairs will not process your application until the first instalment is paid.
- ☐ For a 189 application, check you hold a substantive visa or a Bridging Visa A, B or C when you apply. Home Affairs will not process it otherwise.
- ☐ If you did not attach every document, attach them as soon as you can in ImmiAccount. Keep copies of everything.

Date lodged _____

TRN _____

A suggested 60-day plan

This is our suggestion, not an official timetable. Home Affairs does not publish a day-by-day plan, and we have not verified how long third parties take. Adjust it to your invitation date.

Window	Suggested focus	Why
Days 1 to 3	Read the invitation. Write down your last day to lodge. Check the points on the invitation against your claims. Decide who will lodge (you, or an agent with Form 956).	The 60 days cannot be extended.
Days 3 to 10	Order police certificates (AFP complete disclosure; each overseas country). Ask employers for references. Start My Health Declarations if your visa is listed there.	These depend on third parties. We have not verified how long they take.
Days 10 to 30	Gather, translate and scan documents. Match every claim in your EOI to its evidence.	Home Affairs says you must prove all your EOI claims.
Days 30 to 45	Review every form and date. Check your English result, skills assessment and certificates are still valid.	Australian police certificates are valid for 12 months from issue; health results are generally valid for 12 months.
Days 45 to 55	Lodge in ImmiAccount, pay the first instalment, note your TRN, attach documents.	Home Affairs will not process the application until the first instalment is paid.
Days 55 to 60	Buffer only. Fix problems. Do not plan to lodge on the last day.	Home Affairs says it cannot extend the 60 days.

Where to check (Home Affairs, read 3 November 2026)

Subclass 189 points-tested stream:
https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/skilled-independent-189/points-tested
Subclass 491 application:
https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/skilled-work-regional-provisional-491/application
Points table, subclass 189: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/skilled-independent-189/points-table
Health examinations: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health
Character requirement: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/character
How to get a police certificate: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/glossary/how-to-get-police-certificate
English language requirements: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/english-language
Visa Pricing Estimator: https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/visa-pricing-estimator

Want a registered migration agent to check your documents before you lodge? Global Migrations, Global Migration & Education Solutions (ABN 22 998 014 414), registered migration agent Ranbir Singh, MARN 1069570.
https://globalmigrations.com.au/blog/skillselect-invitation-rounds-latest-results-2026