

The Australian Government's General Skilled Migration program

The Australian Government's Skilled Migration program is implemented through a partnership between government and industry. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations work with industry, represented by professional migration assessing authorities, to ensure that policies and procedures for assessing the skills of prospective migrants are appropriate, transparent and do not pose unreasonable barriers to migration.

The Australian Dental Council (ADC) has been specified by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship in accordance with the *Migration Regulations 1994* as the assessing authority for the occupations Dentist (ANZSCO Code 252312; previously ASCO Code 2381-11) and Dental Specialist (ANZSCO Code 252311; previously ASCO Code 2381-13).

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations supported this process through its role in approving migration assessing authorities. Approval is granted to professional bodies which meet established criteria, including a commitment to support of the objectives of the General Skilled Migration program and the provision of an appropriate assessment service to prospective migrants.

If you wish to apply to migrate to Australia as a Dentist or Dental Specialist under the General Skilled Migration visa categories, you will need to have your skills assessed by the ADC. The ADC will assess your skills as "suitable" or "not suitable" for your nominated occupation against the requirements it has established.

Your skills assessment must be included with your visa application to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC), and you must be prepared to show DIAC all the documentation you have relied upon when seeking a skills assessment. You should keep a certified copy of your skills assessment and all other relevant documentation for your own records.

Successfully migrating to Australia as a Dentist or Dental Specialist does not automatically confer a right to registration with the dental registration boards in Australia or to employment in Australia as a Dentist or Dental Specialist. Requirements additional to those for migration may need to be met, e.g. evidence of registration and/or good standing in your country of training or professional practice.

The ADC can provide advice only in relation to applying for a skills assessment. All other questions relating to migration should be directed to DIAC – visit <http://www.immi.gov.au> for information and contact details.