

## Subclass 191 - Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional) Visa Regional Provisional Visas Stream FACT SHEET

The Regional Provisional Visas stream of the subclass 191 - Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional) visa allows people who have lived and worked for at least three years in a designated regional area to reside permanently in Australia. Applicants must have held an eligible visa during that time. The minimum requirements for the Regional Provisional Visas stream of this visa are set out below:

### REGIONAL PROVISIONAL VISAS STREAM

As the visa applicant, you must:

- have held one of the following visas (your 'qualifying visa') for **at least 3 years**:
  - subclass 491 Skilled Work Regional (Provisional) visa **OR**
  - subclass 494 Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (Provisional) visa
- have complied substantially with the conditions of your qualifying visa, including the requirement to have **lived, worked and studied only in a designated regional area** of Australia  
**NOTE:** Designated regional areas are defined by postcode.
- provide Notices of Assessment issued by the Australian Tax Office (ATO) for **THREE** of the **completed income years** during which you held your qualifying visa
- satisfy the relevant health and character criteria

### APPLICATION PROCESS

#### Stage 1: Initial Eligibility Assessment

We will first conduct an initial assessment of your eligibility for this visa. This involves reviewing your visa conditions as well as your employment and residence in regional Australia, to establish whether or not you are likely to satisfy the relevant criteria.

We will then provide you with informed and comprehensive advice about your ability to meet the minimum standards that the Department of Home Affairs (the DOHA) requires of applicants for this visa.

**NOTE:** Our initial assessment of your eligibility does not guarantee that your visa application will be successful. Authority to decide and approve a visa application rests solely with the DOHA.

## Stage 2. Visa Application

We will prepare your visa application and lodge it with the DOHA for assessment. The main criterion is that you meet the requirements referred to above. Should your visa application be approved, you will be granted a permanent visa. You may be either in Australia or overseas both when you apply for this visa, and when it is granted.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We estimate that it may take several weeks to prepare and lodge your application, with the time taken largely dependent on how promptly you provide us with the necessary supporting information and documents. The time that it takes the DOHA to process your application is dependent upon its processing time service standards, and may also vary due to a number of other factors, including the complexity of your case, perceived risk factors and processing priorities. Please contact us for current information regarding likely processing timeframes for this type of application.

This Fact Sheet contains **general information only**. We strongly recommend that you seek specific guidance from us that is relevant to your circumstances before taking any further action.

Do you have additional questions regarding the subclass 191 - Permanent Residence (Skilled Regional) visa? Please feel free to contact us by email at [support@dojolegal.com.au](mailto:support@dojolegal.com.au), or by phone on **+61 02 9138 0688** to arrange a paid consultation.

**THANK YOU!**



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