

MINDWORX PEOPLE

AN INSIGHT INTO THE 457 VISA

There are occasionally opportunities in Australia for Technology professionals to be sponsored on a 457 visa, the Temporary Business (Long Stay) - Standard Business Sponsorship (Subclass 457). This is the most commonly used program for employers to engage overseas workers that do not hold Australian Citizenship, Permanent Residency or other visa that entitles the holder to work in Australia.

Until recently, recruitment agencies were able to arrange 457 visas for IT contractors, but due to the regulatory changes in Australia regarding the 457 visa, it is now incredibly difficult for many recruitment agencies to sponsor contractors. For those that can sponsor, it often takes several weeks for the visas to be approved.

Typically your occupation and/or area of specialisation would need to be on the Australian Governments "Occupations in Demand List" (see <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/skilled-occupations/occupations-in-demand.htm>). This list changes on a regular basis and what is deemed to be in demand today may not be tomorrow (and vice versa).

With the recent regulatory changes in Australia regarding 457 visas, securing a salaried position (as opposed to a contract position) is more likely, but you will need to have stronger than average skills and experience in your area of specialisation, impeccable communication in the English language, a strong desire to relocate long term to Australia (at least 4 years) and be flexible in regards to time frames for relocation. However, most employers will not wait months for a new employee to start work.

Under the standard criteria for the subclass 457 visa arrangement you will typically require a degree, diploma or trade certificate level qualification and 3 years work experience

relevant to both your qualification and the role that you are being sponsored for, or 5 years of work experience relative to the role that you are being sponsored for.

For more information on the 457 Visa, visit <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/skilled-workers/sbs/index.htm>.

While we are happy to help you in your search for work in Australia, the reality is that it requires commitment from you, as the candidate as well as your prospective employer. Both parties will inevitably incur out of pocket expenses by going down the 457 route and it is usually those with a compelling reason to relocate to Australia, for example, those that have partners or family based in Australia, that are usually most successful in securing a 457 visa.

The cost of living in Australia is relatively cheap in comparison to the developed world, but our salaries do not typically compete with those that can be found overseas. This coupled with the Australian tax system and the costs involved in relocating means that if you are looking to increase your personal wealth you are often better off searching for work in other locations.

Still serious about relocating to Australia?

If your answer is yes, than we would be more than happy to assist. While we are committed to doing whatever we can, we must remind you that the process in finding you the right role within an organisation willing to sponsor you, is often a lengthy one.

Call us today on +61 7 3233 9000 or email enquiries@mindworx.com.au to see what we can do for you.

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