



## General Skilled Migration Program

The Australian Government's General Skilled Migration Program is for professionals and other skilled migrants who are not sponsored by an employer and who have skills in particular occupations required in Australia.

The General Skilled Migration Program is implemented through a partnership between government and industry. The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) and the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) work with industry, represented by professional migration assessing authorities, to ensure that policies and procedures for assessing the qualifications, skills and professional work experience of prospective migrants are appropriate, transparent and do not pose unreasonable barriers to migration.

The Australian Pharmacy Council (APC) has been specified by the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship in accordance with the *Migration Regulations 1994* as the assessing authority for the occupations of Hospital Pharmacist and Retail Pharmacist (ANZSCO 251511 and 251513).

DEEWR supports 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.

A brief description of the occupations of Hospital Pharmacist and Retail Pharmacist can be found on the Australian skills recognition information (ASRI) pages on the DIAC website at [www.immi.gov.au/asri/](http://www.immi.gov.au/asri/). The ASRI pages also provide information about working as a Hospital Pharmacist or Retail Pharmacist in Australia.

If you wish to apply to migrate to Australia as a Hospital Pharmacist or Retail Pharmacist under the General Skilled Migration visa categories, you will need to have your skills assessed by the APC. The APC will assess your skills as either suitable or not suitable for your nominated occupation against the requirements it has established. This assessment is given after successful completion of the Knowledge Assessment of Pharmaceutical Sciences examination (Stream A) or the Competency Assessment for Overseas Pharmacists examination (Stream B). An assessment for holders of approved Australian pharmacy qualifications is given after graduation.

Your skills assessment must be included with your visa application to 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 Hospital Pharmacist or Retail Pharmacist is no guarantee of membership of any pharmacy professional body, registration with the Pharmacy Board of Australia or employment in Australia as a pharmacist. Requirements additional to those for migration may need to be met and these are outlined on the Stream A and Stream B pages of the APC website. The APC no longer manages the pathway for overseas trained pharmacists seeking to apply for registration once they have passed their KAPS or CAOP examination. The Pharmacy Board of Australia is now responsible for this process. Please visit their website [www.pharmacyboard.gov.au](http://www.pharmacyboard.gov.au) for more information.

The APC can only provide advice on applying for a skills assessment. All other questions relating to migration should be directed to DIAC - visit [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au) for information and contact details.