



Australian Government  
Department of Employment  
and Workplace Relations

## Hello Assessing Authorities!

Welcome to the February 2024 edition of the AAPA Bulletin.

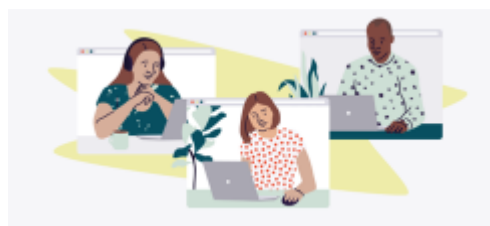
Lots of interesting items in this Bumper issue! Read about what's to come in the [Enhanced Assurance Framework](#) space. The Assessing Authority Policy and Assurance Team has launched the [new DEWR Hub](#) this week! Jobs and Skills Australia has released its latest [Australian Labour Market for Migrants](#) - January 2024. Our friends at the [National Careers Institute](#) have provided information on some of their resources that may interest Assessing Authorities' clients. Take a look at our [Events](#) section for conferences coming up in the first half of this year.

Don't forget to [Stay in Touch!](#).

We hope you find this issue interesting and relevant. We would value your feedback and suggestions for future issues of the Bulletin to the [AAPA mailbox](#).

## Save the date!

AAPA Workshop  
7 March 2024 from 11am – 1pm (AEDT)  
*More to Come!*



## Fraud Training

Home Affairs is offering a new round of fraud training especially for Assessing Authorities. [Register your EOI here](#).

## Assessing Authority Policy and Assurance Hub

The Hub will continue to be updated as more information becomes available, including the Assessing Authority Bulletins, new data, a contact form, and success stories that assessing authorities share with us. Please visit: [www.dewr.gov.au/assessing-authority-policy-and-assurance](http://www.dewr.gov.au/assessing-authority-policy-and-assurance)



If you have any real-life case studies showcasing the exemplary work you do to assist migrants, please send us an email at [AAPA@dewr.gov.au](mailto:AAPA@dewr.gov.au)

## 2024 – Enhanced Assurance Framework coming your way!



Welcome to a new year of providing skills assessments for migration purposes. We are excited to continue working closely with the sector to understand the skills assessment landscape and support you to deliver against our soon to be launched 'Best Practice Principles and Standards'. Throughout 2023 we worked hard to

understand the nuances of skills assessment delivery (with special thanks to the members of our Co-Design Representative Group (CRG) for giving us a significant peak behind their curtain), and actively sought public feedback on the proposed [Best Practice Principles and Standards](#) and areas for future focus and reform. This intelligence is now being used to modernise the [Guidelines for Skilled Migration Assessing Authorities](#) and formalise an enhanced assurance framework.

Our approach to assurance uses a case management model, or 'assurance through engagement'. The Assurance team will be comprised of four assurance case managers reporting to the Assistant Director of Quality Assurance within AAPA. Each case manager will be allocated a group of assessing authorities to oversee. Once caseloads have been allocated, you will be introduced to your case manager and the proposed 'cycle of assurance' explained. We don't plan for assurance activities to be administratively burdensome for you or us – we simply want to support you to deliver the best service that you can. We hope to implement the Assurance Framework by mid-2024. A key activity over the following 12 months will be undertaking deep dive visits with all assessing authorities who were not part of the CRG. These visits provide us with a fantastic opportunity to begin to get to know your organisation and end to end processes. Where possible, we will conduct these visits in person.



2024 is shaping up to be an interesting, exciting and action-packed year. We can't wait to walk it with you.

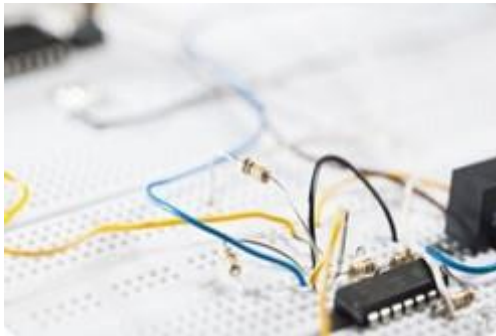
## Skills Assessment Pilots

We have recently achieved one of the last milestones for the Skills Assessment Pilots! 16 February 2024 marked the last day for Pilot 2 referrals, whilst Pilot 3 training enrolments closed on 15 February. We would like to extend a big thank you to all participating Assessing Authorities for your work in promoting, registering, and assisting eligible participants throughout the process! As at 19 February 2024, there have been over 200 completed Pilot 2 assessments, and over 100 Pilot 3 participants at the Coaching or Training Stage, 91 of whom have been enrolled into training!

It is a massive effort from everyone involved since the Pilots commenced in 2022.

We look forward to Deloitte's evaluation of all three pilots. The 6-month Participant Surveys for Pilots 2 and 3 ended last month, and Assessing Authority interviews are scheduled this month. However, if anyone has any personal learnings or ideas out of these pilots that you would like to share, please let us know! Email us at [AAPA@dewr.gov.au](mailto:AAPA@dewr.gov.au)

### How tailored servicing helped Oleksiy's employment prospects



The Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants Pilot and Trades Recognition Australia helped Oleksiy with his employment prospects as an electrician in NSW by providing him with a free and fast-tracked skills assessment. Without the Pilot and his assessor's tailored services, his journey towards obtaining a licence would have been more expensive and might have taken longer.

Oleksiy was a highly skilled and experienced electrician in Ukraine who came to Australia on a humanitarian visa.

To help with his employment prospects in Australia, he sought to have his skills recognised under the Australian Government's Skills Assessment Opportunities for Migrants Pilot.

As part of this Pilot, Future Skills International (a subcontractor of Trades Recognition Australia) tailored their service to his needs. His assessor also went above and beyond by encouraging him to explore future employment opportunities and provided him insights into a pathway for obtaining a full electrical licence.

Oleksiy has now received a suitable skills assessment outcome letter, which he is using in his job applications. He was also awarded a provisional licence to work as an electrician in NSW.

The pilot has been helpful to me," Oleksiy said. "Thanks to this program, I was able to obtain a temporary licence, which brought me closer to obtaining a full licence."

The incentive is a great Pilot. It has been smooth and very well-tailored. Thanks to everyone who developed and organised it."

## Australian Labour Market for Migrants - January 2024

The [Australian Labour Market for Migrants](#) report provides information on Australian labour market conditions. It is intended to inform people interested in working in Australia on a temporary or permanent basis, and to organisations providing services to migrants and visa applicants.

The report notes that while the Australian labour market continues to perform well with a low unemployment rate, the unemployment rates for people who migrate to Australia vary appreciably (depending on skill level, English language proficiency, recent and relevant work experience and the period since arrival in Australia).

The Hot Topic provides an overview of the number of employer-sponsored temporary skilled visas granted to overseas workers to help to meet workforce needs in Australia.

Analysis covers the five years 2018-19 to 2022-23.

See also [The Skills Shortage Quarterly report](#) for December 2023 (published 26 February 2024).

## National Careers Institute Resources

### Your Career

The Your Career website provides individuals of all ages and all career stages with comprehensive and accurate information, enabling people to explore career pathways and related job and study options based on their interests, skills, experience qualifications and location.

Visit [www.yourcareer.gov.au](http://www.yourcareer.gov.au)



### Australian Jobs 2023

Australian Jobs 2023 is an easy-to-read overview of the Australian labour market and an important resource for students, career advisers and those looking for work, wanting to upskill, or change career.

Australian Jobs 2023 is produced by the National Careers Institute and Jobs and Skills Australia. The analysis provided by Jobs and Skills Australia ensures the publication is a comprehensive source of information on industries,

occupation, local labour markets, skills employers need and educational pathways.

Inquiries about Australian Jobs 2023, including requests for hard copies, should be directed to [nci@dewr.gov.au](mailto:nci@dewr.gov.au).

### School Leavers Information Kit



The School Leavers Information Kit (SLIK) has a range of information to help young people discover all the education, training and employment options available to them as they navigate life after school.



outlines the resources and information available in the SLIK, to help parents support their young people in exploring their options beyond school.

### Parents and guardians guide

The Parents and guardians guide



Education, training and work opportunities for your young person (15-24 years)



### Supplementary career information booklets



Your guide to education, training and work



Support for young people with disability

Provides information regarding a range of programs and resources available for young people with disability to support them for their life after school.



Your guide to education, training and work



Support for regional, rural and remote young people  
Guidance and support to help young people in regional, rural and remote communities financially support themselves in life after school.

### Language translations

The School Leavers Information Kit and Parents and guardians guide will be available in language translations shortly. If you require translations in the meantime, please call the free Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 13 14 50.

All of these resources are available to download on the Your Career website. Hard copies can also be requested by emailing [schoolleavers.nci@dewr.gov.au](mailto:schoolleavers.nci@dewr.gov.au).



## Events



### [Immigration Law Conference 2024](#)

"The Joy of Change - A Strategy for Reform"

14 - 15 March 2024 | Melbourne

Venue: Park Hyatt

Welcome Drinks

13 March Commonwealth Law Courts Building, 305 William St, Melbourne

Delegates will have the opportunity to network with others and enjoy refreshments.

While you're in Melbourne for the conference check out the "[Getting In](#)" exhibition at the Immigration Museum.

*"More than 9 million people have migrated to Australia since 1788. Countless others have tried and failed."*

400 Flinders Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000



**Migration  
Institute  
of Australia**

### [Regional Migration Conference 2024](#)

Friday, May 17, 2024

Venue: Playford, 120 North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

#### **Conference Schedule**

9:00am - 5:00pm Full day conference followed by 1.5-hour canapes and beverages.

## Stay In Touch!

**Zoom drop-in sessions for Assessing Authorities**

**3rd Thursday of every month from 3.00pm to 3.45pm AEDT.**

Come along with any questions you have or just come and chat and connect. If you are interested, please email

([Kristen.Casanova@aitsl.edu.au](mailto:Kristen.Casanova@aitsl.edu.au)).



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