

Skills Assessment Requirements for Chefs and Cooks

Everything you need to know

edupi 

Hospitality Immigration Specialists



Visas



Chef Recruit



Hospitality

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Introduction

Chefs and Cooks remain in high demand in Australia with both on the combined list of eligible skilled occupations.

Chefs are on the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL) which provides access to a four year TSS Visa and a pathway to permanent residency. Cooks are on the Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL) which provides access to a two year TSS Visa that allows you to work in Australia temporarily.



What's the difference between the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List and Short-term Skilled Occupation list?

Skilled occupations (like Chef) that are on the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL) allow qualified individuals to apply for both temporary and permanent visas. Only occupations on this list provide a pathway to permanent residency for applicants.

Occupations (like Cook) that are on the Short-term Skilled Occupation List (STSOL)

only allow suitable individuals to apply for temporary visas which allow you to work in Australia for a designated period of time.

If you want to work as a Chef or Cook in Australia, you must provide evidence that you have the skills and qualifications to fulfil the specific job requirements.



Why do you need a skill assessment?

It is mandatory for most Chefs and Cooks to have a skill assessment prior to submitting a TSS visa application. Trades Recognition Australia (TRA) is the body responsible for assessing Chefs and Cooks.

Applicants should be aware the final skill assessment is often performed by other bodies including VETASSESS, William Angliss and Victoria University who all have different requirements. It's important that you use a migration agent who understands these requirements.



What are the Skills Requirements for Chefs & Cooks?



SKILL REQUIREMENT FOR CHEFS

To qualify as a Chef you must achieve skill Level 2 under the ANZSCO classification which requires:

- Advanced Diploma in Hospitality qualification plus Certificate III and IV in Commercial Cookery
- Be at a supervisory level for a minimum of three years.



SKILL REQUIREMENTS FOR COOKS

To qualify as a Cook you must achieve skill level 3 under the ANZSCO classification which requires:

- Three years' experience as an apprentice in a formal program as a cook (Certificate III & IV Commercial Cookery) or;
- Undertaken full-time training and employment as a cook for three years.



ANZCO Skill Level Classifications – What does this mean?

Skill level is defined as a function of the range and complexity of the set of tasks performed in a particular occupation. The greater the range and complexity of the set of tasks, the greater the skill level of an occupation.

Skill level is measured operationally by:

the level or amount of formal education and training

the amount of previous experience in a related occupation, and

the amount of on-the-job training required to competently perform the set of tasks required for that occupation.



Skill levels are classified below by ANZSCO:

SKILL LEVEL

1

BACHELOR DEGREE OR HIGHER (at least 5 years of relevant experience may substitute for formal qualifications, for some occupations)

SKILL LEVEL

2

ASSOCIATE DEGREE, ADVANCED DIPLOMA OR DIPLOMA (at least 3 years of relevant experience may substitute for formal qualifications)

SKILL LEVEL

3

CERTIFICATE IV OR CERTIFICATE III INCL. 2 YEARS OF ON-THE-JOB TRAINING (at least 3 years of relevant experience may substitute for formal qualifications)

SKILL LEVEL

4

CERTIFICATE II OR III (at least 1 year of relevant experience may substitute for formal qualifications)

SKILL LEVEL

5

CERTIFICATE I OR COMPULSORY SECONDARY EDUCATION

SKILL LEVEL

Applicants from some countries may need a TRA assessment. The TRA officer will require formal documents that verify work and training including the length of time. The questions they need answered are:

- If there is no formal apprenticeship documentation, does the applicant have evidence of the six-year work employment as a Cook, and the three years as a Chef?
- Does the applicant have the skills, both breadth and depth for Australian requirements?
- Does the applicant have the technical knowledge that is equivalent to the Australian requirements?
- Does the applicant have extensive knowledge so as to meet the Australian requirements for education and training standards?
- When did the applicant complete the equivalent of the Australian Standards? What is the specific date?



What are the minimum Australian Standard Classification Requirements for Chefs and Cooks?

The minimum entry requirement for the Cook and Chef occupations are an Australian Qualifications Framework Diploma or higher qualification.

The Australian Standard Classification Requirements are as follows:



CHEF

Is responsible for planning and organising the preparation and cooking of food in catering establishments or dining venues.

Skill Level:

The entry requirement for this occupation is an Australian Qualifications Framework Diploma or a higher qualification.

Chefs must have verification of an apprenticeship as a Cook or a minimum of three years of experience as a Chef.

In all situations, pertinent experience is required in addition to the formal qualifications mentioned.

Tasks Include:

- Plans menus for the establishment and estimates food and labour costs, in consultation with the Head Chef
- Supervises the activities of cooks and assistants, implements staff rosters, monitors
- Discusses food preparation issues with staff members, dietitians, and managers
- Requisitions food, kitchen supplies and equipment
- Demonstrates preparation techniques to cooks and advises on proper cooking procedures
- Prepares, seasons, and cooks food
- Portions food into proper servings, adds gravies, sauces, and garnishes
- Explains, monitors, and enforces hygiene regulations
- May select personnel and train staff
- May freeze and preserve foods, as appropriate.

May have one of the following titles:

- Chef de Partie
- Commis Chef
- Demi Chef
- Second Chef
- Sous Chef



COOK

Prepares, cooks and seasons foods in dining establishments and catering.

Skill Level:

The minimum entry requirement for the cook occupation is the Australian Qualifications Framework Certificate III or a higher qualification. A Cook must have completed a formal apprenticeship. If there is no formal apprenticeship contract, a three year vocational training period must be evidenced.

Tasks Include:

- Inspects food for quality control
- Monitors temperatures of cooking equipment like ovens, grills, etc.
- Prepares food for cooking and cooks food
- Seasons food appropriately during cooking
- Portions food into correct serving sizes, plates it, adds gravies or sauces and garnishes
- Stores food in the appropriate temperature controlled facilities
- May plan menus and estimate food requirements for orders and inventory
- May prepare food for special dietary requirements
- May train kitchen staff and apprentices.



What are the English speaking requirements for Chefs and Cooks?

To qualify for a visa as a Chef or Cook, applicants are expected to have competent English speaking skills.

Applicants for a short-term visa require an overall IELTS score of 5 with nothing below 4.5 (PTE Overall 36 nothing below 30). Medium-term applicants require an IELTS score of 5 in each band (PTE 36) and for permanent residency is an IELTS score of 6 in each band (PTE 50).



What is the pathway to permanent residency for Chefs?

Chefs who meet all the requirements for skilled migration visa's such as Skilled Regional (Provisional) Visa - Subclass 489, Skilled Independent Visa (Subclass 189) and Skilled Nominated Visa (Subclass 190) have the opportunity to lodge an expression of interest for permanent residency in Australia.

To lodge an expression of interest, you need to meet the 65 points required in Australia's points based immigration system.

Points are determined by a number of factors including:

- Age
- English language proficiency
- Work experience in your nominated occupation
- Qualifications in your nominated occupation
- Nominated State or Territory invitation.

Achieving the minimum 65 point requirement doesn't guarantee that the applicant will receive an invitation to apply for permanent residency. This depends on the availability of spaces within the quota for Chefs for the year of the application.

It's important to work with an Edupi migration agent during this process to ensure your expression of interest in permanent residency has the best chance of success.



What is demand like for Chefs and Cooks in Australia?

The demand for chefs in Australia continues to be high with outstanding opportunities available to overseas chefs with the experience and qualifications required for a TSS visa.

If you are a suitably qualified overseas Chef interested in opportunities in Australia, get in touch with us via info@edupi.com.au as we have many businesses who are ready to sponsor Chefs and Cooks who meet the skill and English speaking requirements.



How do we help Chefs with skill assessment and employment?

Edupi Migration has extensive experience in the hospitality industry and have successfully placed over 600 Chefs in Australia.

Our skills assessment and placement services include:

- Discounted professional fees to manage the skills assessment process.
- Placement in a suitable role following a positive skills assessment.

We have many job opportunities for overseas Chefs and have a 95% placement rate for Chefs with a positive skills assessment.

For more information regarding skills assessments please contact us at info@edupi.com.au or submit your resume [here](#).



Justin Browne, CEO, Edupi Migration

Justin Browne is considered an industry expert on skill assessments for trade qualifications. Having written and presented courses for migration agents seeking their re-registration for the Migration Institute of Australia, Justin and his team will manage your assessment application from start to finish.



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