1. As part of the 2012-13 Budget, the Treasurer and Minister for Trade announced that Trade and Investment Queensland, in consultation with the Department of Education, Training and Employment, would undertake a review of Queensland’s state-sponsored migration program.
2. Queensland has participated in Australia’s state-sponsored migration program since 1984. The program is intended to support economic development in the State. Queensland benefits from migration by nominating high calibre business migrants who contribute to the economy through investment and employment creation activities. State sponsorship also provides a low risk, low cost option for small to medium enterprises seeking highly skilled workers to fill occupations in critical shortage.
3. The review confirmed Queensland sponsors fewer skilled and business migrants compared to any other state and that Queensland has the most onerous eligibility criteria.
4. Cabinet approved Queensland’s new criteria for skilled business migration visas, the revised list of occupations on the eligible skills list (ESL), the new eligible skills list for international students, exceptional economic benefit policy and off-list policy.
5. Cabinet approved the realignment of Queensland’s state-sponsored migration program from the Department of Education, Training and Employment to Queensland Treasury and Trade.
6. *Attachments*
* [Queensland eligibility criteria for state-sponsored skilled migration visas, 489 subclass](Attachments/Skilled%20Business%20Migration%20Program%20-%20Attachment%2001.PDF)
* [Queensland eligibility criteria for state-sponsored skilled migration visas, 190 subclass](Attachments/Skilled%20Business%20Migration%20Program%20-%20Attachment%2002.PDF)
* [Queensland eligibility criteria for state-sponsored business migration visas, all subclasses](Attachments/Skilled%20Business%20Migration%20Program%20-%20Attachment%2003.PDF)
* [Eligible Skills List for International Graduates](Attachments/Skilled%20Business%20Migration%20Program%20-%20Attachment%2004.PDF)