

South Australian Designated Area Migration Agreements (DAMA)



What is a DAMA?

A DAMA is a labour agreement between a Designated Area Representative (DAR) and the Australian Government to fill labour and skills shortages in a specific region with skilled overseas workers.

The South Australian Government has entered into two DAMAs:

Adelaide Technology and Innovation Advancement Agreement – focusing on Adelaide’s high-tech growth industries including defence, space, technology and advanced manufacturing industries, throughout the Greater Adelaide planning region.

South Australian Regional Workforce Agreement – focusing on South Australia’s regional high growth industries including agribusiness, forestry, health and social services, tourism and hospitality, construction and mining, throughout the entire state of South Australia. Agribusiness occupations will apply to the businesses located in the 5110 - 5734 postcodes.

What is the role of the DAR?

Immigration SA is the Designated Area Representative (DAR) and is responsible for overseeing the DAMA, endorsing employers, monitoring and evaluation as per the Agreement with the Australian Government.



Information for employers

The DAMAs enable South Australian employers to sponsor skilled overseas workers for positions they are unable to fill with local workers.

South Australian employers will need to be endorsed by the DAR in order to enter into a DAMA Labour Agreement with the Australian Government.

Who can access the South Australian DAMAs?

Businesses which are actively operating in South Australia and:

- Are financially viable and have been actively and lawfully operating for at least 12 months
- Have no adverse history of not meeting their obligations to employees
- Are looking to employ overseas workers to fill full-time positions with duties that align with occupations on the relevant DAMA occupation list

- Can demonstrate they cannot fill the position locally with Australian citizens or permanent residents, evidenced through labour market testing
- Can provide conditions of employment to overseas workers that are in accordance with those offered to Australian workers employed in the region.

An overview of the **DAMA assessment criteria** is available by visiting: www.migration.sa.gov.au/dama



Information for workers

The DAMA is an employer-sponsored visa program which comes under the Temporary Skill Shortage visa (Subclass 482 labour agreement stream). Individual workers cannot apply independently.

Employers must apply to the DAR to access the South Australian Migration Agreements for the occupations, concessions and number of workers they require.

Overseas workers (nominees) sponsored under the DAMA must satisfy the skills, qualifications, experience, employment background required under Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) or as determined by the Department of Home Affairs at the time the Labour Agreement is approved.

How to apply for a SA DAMA

The following diagram outlines the end-to-end process and parties responsible for each process stage.



1. Employer applies for DAR endorsement via the [Immigration SA Apply website](#)
2. DAR undertakes assessment for endorsement
3. DAR issues a Letter of Endorsement to the employer and notifies Department of Home Affairs
4. Employer requests DAMA Labour Agreement with the Department of Home Affairs
5. Department of Home Affairs assesses Labour Agreement application and notifies employer of outcome
6. Employer proceeds to lodge nomination and nominee lodges visa application with Department of Home Affairs.



Contact us

Assistance with applications

Employers (or nominees) who need assistance with the migration application process, including the Labour Agreement, nomination and/or visa application, should consider engaging a **registered migration agent**. Find an agent here: www.migration.sa.gov.au/resources/find-a-migration-agent

Immigration SA can provide information and guidance to assist with the Request for Endorsement Application process.

Immigration SA

Applications and online enquiries can be submitted through the Immigration SA Apply website: www.apply.migration.sa.gov.au

T: +61 (8) 8303 2420

E: dama@sa.gov.au

General information is available by visiting: www.migration.sa.gov.au/dama