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**MINISTER FOR JOBS AND INNOVATION**

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**MINISTER FOR CITIZENSHIP AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS**

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**NEW VISA PILOT TO ATTRACT THE BEST OF GLOBAL TALENT TO AUSTRALIA**

Highly skilled workers from around the world will have a new visa pathway into Australia as a part of the Government's new Global Talent Scheme pilot program.

From 1 July all businesses will be able to sponsor highly skilled and specialised workers who will help to grow their businesses and create more jobs.

The pilot will run for 12 months and provide businesses with a streamlined process to sponsor overseas workers with cutting edge skills, where there are no suitable Australians available to fill the vacancies.

The Government has been consulting with industry, the start-up sector and tertiary institution leaders, who informed the initial design of the scheme and will provide additional advice during the pilot.

The scheme includes two streams – one for established businesses and one for start-ups.

All businesses sponsoring workers to Australia under the scheme will need to demonstrate that they have been unable to source suitable individuals in the Australian labour market.

Workers sponsored under the scheme will have access to a Temporary Skills Shortage visa and permanent residence after three years.

Minister for Jobs and Innovation, Senator Michaelia Cash said the new scheme answers the call from business to deliver more flexible, future focussed visa arrangements that help attract global talent to Australia.

"This scheme will connect Australia with the skills to help grow the economy and develop innovative new businesses," Minister Cash said.

"The Government has been working closely with stakeholders to ensure this program brings maximum benefit to Australia - to promote business growth, skill sharing and increased job creation."

Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Alan Tudge said the innovative new scheme will help to attract top global talent into Australia.

“This scheme is designed to facilitate businesses accessing top talent from around the world,” Minister Tudge said.

“It complements existing Temporary Skill Shortage visa arrangements by providing the flexibility to handle high value, niche skills that can’t be obtained under the standard visa program.

“A lot of the top talent is in fierce demand from companies all over the world. We want this talent to come to Australia, to support businesses here and create wealth for the nation.”

More information about the Global Talent Scheme pilot is available at:

[www.homeaffairs.gov.au/visasforinnovation](http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/visasforinnovation)

**For further information:**

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