



INTERSTAFF

SPONSORING OVERSEAS WORKERS ON A DESIGNATED AREA MIGRATION AGREEMENT (DAMA)

Does your business find it difficult to secure suitably skilled workers in regional areas? A Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) is a 5 year labour arrangement between an eligible business, the Federal Government and a Designated Area Representative, such as a city/town/shire council, that allows an employer to fill labour shortages in a specified area with overseas workers.

DAMA'S AND VISA SPONSORSHIP

Employers that are granted a DAMA can sponsor skilled and semi-skilled visa holders in designated regional areas under a more extensive list of occupations.

Engaging an overseas worker on a DAMA is done through the **Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS) 482 Visa** and the **Employer Nominated Scheme (ENS) 186 Visa** programs.

As per these employer-sponsored visa programs, businesses will need to:

- Undertake Labour Market Testing (LMT) to provide evidence of the difficulty in filling labour shortages locally
- Agree to meet sponsorship obligations
- Pay a contribution to the Skilling Australians Fund (SAF)

CURRENT DAMA'S IN AUSTRALIA

As part of its focus on regional skilled migration, the Government is fast-tracking the establishment of DAMA's across Australia.

DAMA's have already been established in the below regional areas:

- **The Goldfields, Western Australia**
- **The Northern Territory**
- **The Great South Coast, Victoria**
- **Adelaide City and Regional South Australia**
- **Orana, New South Wales**
- **Far North Queensland**

For advice on whether your business is eligible to engage overseas workers under a DAMA, simply contact Interstaff's Registered Migration Agents on **08 9221 3388** or visase@interstaff.com