

# INFORMATION RELEVANT TO APPLICATION FORM - SWNR1182 for WELFARE WORKERS

## ASSESSMENT OF OVERSEAS AND AUSTRALIAN QUALIFICATIONS FOR NON-RESIDENTS OF AUSTRALIA

Information relevant to Application Form – SWNR1182 for SOCIAL WORKERS can be obtained from the AASW or their website at [www.aasw.asn.au](http://www.aasw.asn.au)

(Note: Some terminology in this form may not be current and is programmed for updating when our website is upgraded in 2010. However, the intent of the guidelines remains relevant.)

Please also note that to be assessed as a welfare worker from 1 February 2010 applicants require an English language proficiency requirement of at least a 7.0 in each IELTS band. Please refer to the details outlined on our website [www.aiwcw.org.au](http://www.aiwcw.org.au))

### IMPORTANT

**Please read these explanatory notes and the application forms very carefully so that you know what information and documents you need to provide. This will save time in the long run.**

The information on the application form is collected by the Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers (AIWCW) for the purpose of assessing membership eligibility which is the basic requirement for people wishing to migrate to Australia as a Welfare Worker under the Skilled Migration Program. All personal information will be handled confidentially. Details may be verified with or provided to other agencies where necessary or required by law.

This information booklet is designed to be read in its entirety. It has five main sections:

Section I: How to apply for assessment;

Section II: Information specific to the assessment of Welfare Workers

Section III: Check List to a successful application for assessment as a WELFARE WORKER

Section IV: Glossary of terms and acronyms.

Section V: Contact addresses and information.

**PLEASE NOTE: Information is accurate at the time of printing but eligibility requirements, fees and waiting period may change.**

Assessments can only be conducted following the submission of a correctly completed application form, all required documents and fee. When the AIWCW receives your application you will be sent a written confirmation within 5 to 7 working days. Please do not make enquiries for a Reference Number until at least 14 days have elapsed from the time you actually posted your application.

**ASSESSMENTS CANNOT BE GIVEN BY PHONE OR EMAIL**

### APPLICATION FORM SWNR1182

This is the correct application form for non-residents wishing to apply for a pre-migration skills assessment for the Skilled Migration Program.

## SHOULD YOU USE THIS FORM?

Use this form if you wish to have your overseas or Australian qualifications assessed against Australian requirements for welfare workers, which you may use at a later date to migrate to, or work in, Australia.

It is essential that, prior to lodging this application, you read

- *General Skilled Migration*, a booklet which can be purchased from DIMA or an Australian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate
- Any additional information provided with this form

## DO NOT USE THIS FORM IF YOU...

- Are an Australian permanent resident or citizen, or
- Are a temporary resident with a visa which allows you to work in Australia, or a citizen of New Zealand resident in Australia, and you wish to obtain an assessment of qualifications obtained outside Australia for the purpose of working in Australia only
  - please contact AIWCW for relevant forms
- Would like your formal general academic (university or equivalent) and/or technical qualifications obtained overseas, assessed in educational terms only. In this case you should contact Australian Education International - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) for information and advice on the most appropriate means of having your qualifications assessed.

## TO WHICH ORGANISATION SHOULD YOU APPLY FOR ASSESSMENT?

The AIWCW is the professional association for welfare workers in Australia and is the assessing body for overseas welfare work qualifications. Qualifications and experience are assessed against the membership eligibility requirements of the AIWCW. More information about this can be found in Section II.

The AASW is the professional association of social workers in Australia and is the assessing body for overseas social work qualifications. Qualifications are assessed against the membership eligibility requirements of the AASW. It is essential that you read AASW booklet *Policy and Procedures for Establishing Eligibility for Membership of the AASW* if you wish to apply for assessment as a social worker.

If you wish to be assessed as a welfare worker, please apply in the first instance to the AIWCW. If you wish to be assessed as a social worker please apply in the first instance to the AASW.

**Note: Eligibility requirements for the AIWCW and the AASW may change over time without notice.**

Experience has shown that, due to differences in education between countries, the courses studied by some overseas-qualified social workers do not meet AASW membership eligibility requirements. In the past many of these people have met the membership eligibility requirements of the AIWCW.

**Please Note: If your application is assessed by the AASW and you are assessed as not suitable for Social Work you will be required to pay an additional fee to the AIWCW if you wish to be assessed as a Welfare Worker.**

**If your application is assessed by the AIWCW and you later wish to have an assessment against AASW requirements for social workers you will be required to pay an additional fee to the AASW.**

If you are uncertain about the correct place to send your application, please contact the AIWCW or the AASW

# SECTION I:

## HOW TO APPLY FOR ASSESSMENT OF YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR MIGRATION PURPOSES

### Introduction

The Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers (AIWCW) has a commitment to the welfare work profession and values the contribution that welfare workers educated overseas (and international students educated in Australia) can make to Australia's increasingly multi-cultural society, and recognises the importance of assessment of qualifications so that eligible welfare workers may seek employment in Australia in the social welfare worker profession and join the AIWCW.

Welfare work in Australia is not a registered profession. However, the AIWCW is the standard-setting body for the Welfare and Community Services profession in Australia. Graduation from an Australian AIWCW-approved Bachelor of Welfare Work degree or a two-year Diploma of Community Welfare Work (or similar AIWCW approved courses) confers eligibility for membership of the AIWCW. Many employers require proof of eligibility of AIWCW membership for employment in one of the disciplines associated with the welfare profession.

If you have overseas qualifications in welfare work (or qualifications in a closely related discipline – See Section II) and wish to apply for positions which require eligibility for membership of the AIWCW, or if you wish to migrate to Australia under the Australian Government's Skilled Migration Program as a welfare worker, you will need to apply for an assessment of your qualifications to determine whether or not they meet AIWCW membership eligibility requirements.

### Non-Residents of Australia Who Wish to Migrate under the Australian Government's Skilled Migration Program

The AIWCW is the gazetted assessing authority for welfare work for the Australian Government's Skilled Migration Program. Non resident Welfare Workers with either overseas or Australian welfare work qualifications who wish to apply for permanent residence under the Skilled Migration Program need to apply to the AIWCW for a pre-migration skills assessment prior to submitting their application for permanent residence.

Prior to commencing the assessment process it is important to obtain information with regard to the Skilled Migration Program and requirements for skills assessment from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA). This information can be found by contacting your nearest Australian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate; or DIMA either through its website at [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au) or departmental offices in Australia. The publication General Skilled Migration outlines the requirements of the migration program and can be purchased from any of the above sources. People who have qualifications in areas of work not appropriate or relevant to the welfare and related profession will need to seek assessment from another authorised assessing body, as indicated in the *above publication*.

### Non-Residents with Overseas Welfare Work Qualifications

Either specific welfare qualifications or other relevant qualifications combined with relevant work experience (See Section II) may be taken into account for welfare work assessments. If you wish to obtain a pre-migration skills assessment for qualifications obtained overseas, from the AIWCW, you will need to apply for an assessment of your qualifications/experience to determine whether or not they do meet AIWCW membership eligibility requirements. If they are assessed as meeting requirements you will be provided with both a pre-migration skills assessment to submit with your application to DIMIA for permanent residence and an assessment which will demonstrate AIWCW eligibility for employment and membership purposes.

## Non-Residents with Australian Welfare Work Qualifications

If you have Australian welfare work qualifications and require a pre-migration skills assessment, you will also need to apply to have your qualifications assessed. If you have an AIWCW approved qualification you will receive a pre-migration skills assessment. If you have a specific welfare qualification from a University/College which has not been granted course/campus approval, or have an other relevant Australian welfare work qualification, you may still be eligible for assessment if you have relevant work experience and a practical knowledge of the competencies required for welfare workers. Please refer to Section II.

## How the Qualifications are Assessed

Assessment of all overseas-educated applicants is undertaken individually by the AIWCW on a basis of comparison with the educational qualifications and competencies required of Australian welfare workers, using written materials.

## Fees

**The current fee for the assessment of qualifications/experience for a welfare worker is AUD\$500.**

The fee must be paid in Australian dollars and must accompany your application form as a bank cheque or money order made payable to the Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers. A credit card payment facility is available (see application form).

## Completing the Application Form

You will need to provide all the information and documents asked for and necessary fees before your application can be finalised. Incomplete applications cannot be processed and may be returned to you.

1. Answer ALL questions in English, unless otherwise requested.
2. Initial and date any alteration to the form.
3. If you have more than two qualifications, please provide details of these in the same format as required on the form but provide this information on a separate piece of paper and sign and date it.
4. If you need more space than that provided to outline each field work placement undertaken as a required component of your qualification, please provide a separate piece of paper or use the space provided under Section 19 - Additional information.
5. Please do not insert documents in separate plastic covers.
6. Please use paper clips, not staples.
7. Please send all required documents and your assessment fee to the AIWCW if you are applying for an assessment as a welfare worker.

If you do not notify us in writing of a change of address before your assessment is posted and you do not receive the original assessment and request a replacement, then a fee and waiting period will apply.

## Documents You Should Include

To support your application, you will need to provide certified copies of all the documents listed below. Please do not send the original of these documents or copies of certified copies. **All documents not in English must be translated in full by a qualified translator with the certified copies attached to the documents to which they refer. Extracts of translations are not acceptable.**

**Note: You should keep the original copy of all documents (including the application form) you submit to the AIWCW for assessment, as the Immigration Department may require copies when you lodge your application for a visa. If you require the AIWCW to provide a copy of your file then costs and waiting periods apply.**

### The documents required are:

1. The degree, diploma or certificate in the original language;
2. Official transcripts of educational qualifications completed (or student book or mark sheets) in the original language. A transcript lists the courses, units or subjects studied by the individual student each year, together with the marks obtained, and can usually be obtained from the relevant

educational institution;

3. Course/subject/unit outlines, which are descriptions of the individual courses/subjects/units studied and assessed as part of the qualification obtained. These can be taken from a syllabus or course handbook;
4. Evidence of a change of name (where applicable);
5. Marriage certificate (where applicable);
6. Evidence of registration or license to practice from the country in which training was undertaken and/or the last jurisdiction of practice if applicable;
7. Detailed work history and references. This work history should include the dates at which you began and completed work at each workplace, the name of the workplace, the title of your work position, the type of work undertaken in some detail, and whether full or part-time and, if part-time, the number of hours per week. References from supervisors and employers should confirm the dates of employment and the type of work undertaken in the relevant job;
8. If there are conflicting differences in the information contained in supporting documents you will need to provide satisfactory comment and evidence concerning the differences;
9. Any other additional information that may be asked for in Section II.

Documents from the relevant institution, authority or employer should be provided. It is unusual for an educational institution or authority not to have records. If you cannot obtain the required documents you should contact the AIWCW for advice.

In some instances a Statutory Declaration may be accepted in place of some of the required documents.

If you have more than one academic qualification you wish to be considered, we will need the documents as outlined above for each of these qualifications. All academic qualifications should be included – not just your highest qualification, as it is not always the case that the highest qualification is relevant to the welfare profession.

**Sometimes applicants may be requested to provide additional information.**

**Note:** If forged, altered or falsified documents are submitted, no assessment report will be issued and no refund will be provided.

## Translations

If your original degree, diploma, certificate or other supporting documents is not written in the English language, e.g. Cyrillic, Arabic or Chinese, a translation of the documents into the English language is to be provided with certified copies of the original documents.

AIWCW reserves the right to request applicants to provide the translations completed by a translator accredited by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI). Level 3 accreditation is normally required.

## Certification

Certified copies are copies which have been formally endorsed as true copies by a person or agency recognised by the law of your country, (for example, a notary official, a Justice of the Peace) and recognised by the Australian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate for this purpose.

Each copy of the document must be certified separately and must clearly show:

- the words “certified true copy of the original”;
- the signature of the certifying officer, and
- the name and address or provider/registration number (where appropriate) of the certifying officer legibly printed below the signature. It must be possible, from the details provided for the AIWCW to contact the certifying officer if necessary.

**Please send the certified copy - NOT a photocopy of a certified copy.**

## Agents

AIWCW normally deals directly with applicants seeking the assessment of their overseas qualifications. The AIWCW will not discuss your application with other people (third parties) unless specifically authorised to do so. If you want someone such as a family member or other agent to deal with AIWCW on your behalf, you will need to **attach a letter signed by you authorising this person (by name) to act as your agent**. An Application Form (SWNR 1182) must be personally signed by the applicant – it cannot be signed by an Agent. **Regardless of whether an Agent is appointed or not, the address used for correspondence will be that as shown at Question 8 on the Application Form.**

## Length of Assessment Time

Assessments are normally undertaken in chronological order of receipt of complete applications and assessment completion times may vary. Please allow at least ten weeks for completion of assessment. Incomplete documentation may extend the assessment time.

## Referral to AIWCW Membership Assessment Panel

In some cases, complex assessments which may not conform with recognised assessment criteria or procedures may be referred by the AIWCW Assessment Officer to the AIWCW Membership Assessment Panel – the AIWCW authority which oversees the assessments. This may extend the time required to complete the assessment.

## Priority Assessments

There is currently no provision for priority assessments. However, if you are undergoing extreme circumstances due to severe illness, injury or similar reasons, then the AIWCW may give you special consideration. Full and detailed written evidence substantiating your case will be required.

**The fact that your Visa may be expiring, or the Immigration rules are changing, are not valid reasons to seek special consideration.** The AIWCW is the authority to assess the appropriateness of your qualifications and experience to work as a welfare worker. The options available in relation to visas should be discussed with the Immigration Department.

## After You Receive an Assessment

If you sent your application to the AIWCW and you receive an assessment stating that your qualifications meet the requirements for welfare workers in Australia, this means that your qualifications meet the AIWCW membership eligibility requirements.

## Review and Appeals

If you are assessed as being Not Suitable as a welfare worker you will be provided with information about reviews and appeals at the same time as you receive the assessment. A fee applies for appeals.

## Employment

The AIWCW does not keep any specific information about either permanent or temporary employment. Information about employment can be found in the large capital city daily newspapers such as “The Australian”, “The Melbourne Age” or “The Sydney Morning Herald” all of which can be accessed via the internet and are available at Australian Embassies, High Commissions or Consulates. For further information consult the website of the Australian Department of Employment Workplace Relations and Small Business (DEWRSB) [www.dewr.gov.au](http://www.dewr.gov.au) . There are also comprehensive job vacancy websites.

## Need Further Information?

Contact the Assessment Officer by email at: [assessments@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:assessments@aiwcw.org.au)

## SECTION II:

# QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE SPECIFIC TO THE ASSESSMENT OF WELFARE WORKERS

## Welfare Work in Australia

Before applying for skills assessment as a “welfare worker” you are urged to thoroughly consult the Skilled Occupation List within the “General Skilled Migration” booklet, available from Australian Embassies and from the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (DIMA) in Australia. Your concept of “welfare work” might not correspond to what this means in Australia, and another occupation might better suit your qualifications and experience. The following further explains “welfare work” in Australia.

Generic welfare work is similar to social work as practised in Australia and in some overseas countries, in that it includes *experience, ability, and/or qualifications* in working with different numbers of people, using several different “**methods**”. These methods include work with individuals in personal “counselling” (sometimes known as “casework”); with groups; with communities; and to a lesser extent, involving agency administration, management, policy and research. Welfare work emphasises the **values** of the self-determination and dignity of those people who seek or require help (“clients”), and it generally avoids the giving of advice and the use of direct authority in telling people what to do.

Generic welfare work can be **applied** to a variety of **specialised categories** of people, such as the aged, disabled, youth, addicts, homeless, etc., and those in poverty or other form of disadvantage. But generic welfare work is **not** concentrated upon only one of these “methods” or specialised categories. This means that welfare workers in Australia must have the *ability* to work with a variety of methods and categories of persons, and this generally implies a greater amount of skill and knowledge than those specialising in only one method or category, such as work exclusively with communities or only with the intellectually disabled (for example).

The required ability (generic skills and knowledge) may be acquired either by completing a professional vocational course in welfare work (Pathway A), **or** by a combination of an Other Relevant Qualification and professional experience, as confirmed by also having attained the AIWCW Core Competencies (Pathway B). These Core Competencies include the ability to use the “methods” and values mentioned above and applicants using Pathway B will need to provide extensive evidence that the Competencies have been attained. Details of the two Pathways now follow:

## Two Pathways to Welfare Work Suitability

### PATHWAY A

Graduates of a course which is equivalent to one with AIWCW Basic Approval are assessed as being suitable as a welfare worker in Australia. Such a course will generally:

1. Be at least equivalent to an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Diploma, and
2. Have a curriculum which includes study of:
  - a) generic welfare work or social work, including work with individuals (casework and counselling), and with groups and communities;
  - b) society and sociology, including community, and social and political structure and function;
  - c) individual human structure and function, including introductory psychology;
  - d) general and specialised welfare services and welfare systems, and including welfare agency management and policy; and
  - e) research and evaluation
3. Include at least 400 hours of professionally supervised fieldwork, in two separate placements; and
4. be at least two years of full-time study over two calendar years (or part-time equivalent).

If you are reasonably sure your qualification matches these criteria, you need not enclose details of work experience; you will rely only on Pathway A instead. Full details of the course must be attached, however, unless you use a “*Recognised Courses*” Application - see below.

## PATHWAY B

The following may also be assessed as suitable as a welfare worker in Australia:

Graduates

1. with an **Other Relevant Qualification** (ORQ), **and**
2. who have at least **three years of relevant professional experience** (averaging at least 30 hours per week), during the ten years prior to the application, **and**
3. who have **satisfied the AIWCW Core Competencies Requirements**.

These requirements involve an extensive application process and evidence guide, the details of which are outlined in the separate document *AIWCW Core Competencies Requirements for Overseas Qualified Applicants*. If you wish to use Pathway B please contact the AIWCW National Office for a copy or see the website. – [www.aiwcw.org.au](http://www.aiwcw.org.au)

(1) An “**Other Relevant Qualification**” (ORQ) will be at least equivalent to an Australian Qualification Framework Diploma which has a curriculum relevant to a closely related occupation, such as work with disabled, youth, the aged, nursing, physiotherapy etc; OR which is equivalent to at least a bachelor degree with a major in psychology or sociology, or some similar social science discipline.

(2) “**Relevant professional experience**” can be paid or voluntary, but the latter must be adequately supervised by a professional person, whose name and qualifications should be supplied. The experience must be of at least 30 hours per week and total at least three years during the past 10 years. It may be in an Other Relevant Occupation, such as psychologist, nurse, community worker, social policy analyst or planner, residential care worker, or the like.

(3) The “**Core Competencies**” are *grouped* under the broad headings of:

1. Practice in an ethical and professional manner;
2. Communicate appropriately;
3. Assess plans, projects and work with clients;
4. Implement programs, projects, and work with clients;
5. Manage, plan and organise, both autonomously and as part of a team;
6. Use personal attributes appropriately;
7. Use awareness of societal structures and systems in work with clients.

Each of these *groups* of competencies is made up of a number of elements. **It is necessary to demonstrate a practical knowledge and understanding of the 33 compulsory and 2 of the desirable elements of these competencies**, with appropriate evidence from your professional work experience supporting your statements. The full requirements are included in the document titled “AIWCW Core Competencies Requirements for Overseas Qualified Applicants”.

Evidence of **ability** to work with individuals, groups, *and* communities as “clients” is required, although you might not have extensive experience in all of this work.

## Guidelines for Particular Regions and Countries

Based upon our experience of many assessments in the past, the following cautions and concessions are offered to prospective applicants:

Many applicants from Asian and African countries are very experienced in working with communities, and some have very senior positions involving policy development, management of large programs, and/or research, but if they do not also have some experience, ability (or qualifications) in helping with individual problems as counsellors, they are probably not suitable as welfare workers in Australia. (Other categories in the Skilled Occupation List might be more suitable – such as “Community Worker”, “Welfare Centre Manager”, “Policy Analyst”, or “Social Professionals”.)

Some applicants, especially from North America, have qualifications and/or experience as a psychotherapist or “counsellor”. But unless there is evidence of ability to also work with communities and groups they are probably not suitable as welfare workers in Australia. (Other categories in the Skilled Occupation List might be more suitable – “Counsellors” of several different kinds.) Some of the above have specialised in “pastoral counselling” and/or have theology degrees, but if the counselling or courses

of study are confined substantially to religious or spiritual matters, then they are unlikely to be assessed as “welfare work”.

Many applicants from the European Continent (such as Germany and the Netherlands) have qualifications or experience in “social pedagogy” involving work which is educational in focus and dealing with people with disabilities or those in conflict with society. This does not usually correspond directly with welfare work as practised in Australia, but many such workers do have enough in their coursework or work experience to be assessed as suitable for welfare work in Australia. Such applications may involve extensive evidence of the content of courses and/or work experience.

## “Recognised Course” Application

Applicants with certain qualifications from (only) the following countries may use the Recognised Course Format, which allows a great reduction in required documentation. Notwithstanding the instructions on the form SWNR1182, such applicants need only supply the following for Skills Assessment, with respect to qualifications and experience:

1. Certified copy of social/welfare work qualification
2. Certified copy of transcript of final results
3. Details of all field work placements, as outlined on the Application Form SWNR1182
4. Details (but not evidence) of other qualifications and work experience, as outlined on the Application Form 1182 at Questions 15 and 20.

Apart from Certified copies of your qualification and transcript of results, it is not necessary to provide details of the course outlines. You may still need to supply other documentation required, such as evidence of change of name and registration (where applicable).

However, in some circumstances, additional material may be requested from applicants, but experience has shown that such applications can generally be assessed on the basis of coursework alone. There can be no reduction in fee for such applications, however.

### AUSTRALIA

Applicants with an AIWCW Approved Australian welfare work qualification.

### UNITED KINGDOM

Applicants with at least a Diploma of H.E. (or similar) in Social Work (or similar) qualification from the United Kingdom **studied full time over at least a two year period**, with at least 400 hours of supervised field education, and recognised by the General Social Care Council in England, or its equivalent in Scotland, Wales and Ireland, (formerly CCETSW) as a qualifying training for social work as evidenced by the issue of their Diploma in Social Work (or earlier, the Certificate Qualification in Social Work).

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and CANADA

Applicants with a Bachelor of Social Work degree which includes at least 400 hours of field education from recognised universities in the USA or CANADA.

### HONG KONG

Applicants with a Diploma or Bachelor Degree in Social Work from the following educational institutions in Hong Kong, involving study full time over at least a two year period, with at least 400 hours of field education:

- Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Baptist University
- University of Hong Kong
- City University of Hong Kong (formerly City Polytechnic of Hong Kong)
- Hong Kong Polytechnic University (formerly Hong Kong Polytechnic)

Those with social work qualifications from other Hong Kong Universities may also use the Recognised Course Format, but more details may be required later.

### PHILIPPINES

Applicants with a 4 year (full time) Bachelor of Social Work degree from the Philippines **may first** use the Recognised Course Format, but additional details of courses and work experience will be required for some applications.

## SECTION III.

### CHECKLIST - A guide to a successful application as a Welfare Worker

You should thoroughly check the **details** of what is required before answering “Yes” to these questions.

#### PATHWAY A

<b>Q.1</b>	Do you have a diploma or degree in <b>welfare</b> or <b>social work</b> ? Answer “Yes” only if the qualification is specifically in “welfare work” or “social work” and involves full time study of at least 2 years duration, with at least 400 hours of field work.	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q.2</b>	If “Yes” at Q.1, was the qualification obtained from UK, USA, Canada, Hong Kong or the Philippines? (- If “Yes”, you might consider a “Recognised Course Application” – see Section II)	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q.3</b>	Do you have another qualification or combination of qualifications which is likely to be equivalent to a generic welfare work course? (- If “Yes”, you might still qualify under Pathway A, but full details of all courses must be supplied.	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Note</b>	If you answered “Yes” at Q.1, and your social work qualification is of at least <b>4 years</b> (full time) duration, you might be eligible for assessment as a “Social Worker” in Australia. You might contact the AASW for further details.	

If you answered “Yes” to Q.1 or Q.3, you are ready to complete the application with the assessment being based on your academic qualification/s.

If you answered “No” to Q.1 or Q.3 – it would appear that you do not have a specific welfare or social work qualification and you will need to consider making application using the Pathway B criteria.

#### PATHWAY B

Please refer to the additional document titled **AIWCW Core Competencies Requirements for Overseas Qualified Applicants**

<b>Q.4</b>	Do you have an Other Relevant Qualification likely to be recognised by AIWCW? If “Yes”, go to Q.5 If “No”, see # below	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q.5</b>	Do you have at least three years of relevant professional work experience within the past 10 years? If “Yes”, go to Q.6 If “No”, see # below	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q.6</b>	Has your relevant professional work experience been full time or nearly full time (at least 30 hours per week)? If “Yes” and all the work has been in paid employment, go Q.9 If “Yes” and some or all the work has been of a voluntary nature, go Q.7 If “No”, see # below	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q.7</b>	If all or part of your 3 years of relevant professional work experience has been voluntary (without wages or other payment), has it been adequately supervised by a professionally qualified person? If “Yes”, go to Q.8 If “No”, see # below	<b>Yes/No</b>
<b>Q.8</b>	If so, have you supplied details of supervisor(s) names and qualifications? If “Yes”, go to Q.9 If “No”, please supply details – go to Q.9	<b>Yes/No</b>

<b>Q.9</b>	Have you examined the 39 Elements of Competency outlined in the document <i>AIWCW Core Competencies Requirements for Overseas Qualified Applicants</i> and determined that you can substantially fulfil the requirements for the <u>33 Essential Elements, and 2 out of 6 Desirable ones</u> ? If “ <b>Yes</b> ”, go to Q.10 If “ <b>No</b> ”, see # below If “ <b>Unsure</b> ”, you might contact the AIWCW for further limited guidance	<b>Yes/No Unsure</b>
<b>Q.10</b>	If you answered “ <b>Yes</b> ” to Q.9, have you completed the Competency Assessment requirements, and attached full answers for EACH Element, including supporting documentation and evidence?	<b>Yes/No</b>

**If you have answered “Yes” to all the relevant questions, you are ready to send your application for an assessment using the Pathway B criteria. But also consult the Checklist on the Application Form.**

**# If you answered “No” to Questions Q.1 and Q.3, AND any of Questions 4, 5, or 10**, you are unlikely to be assessed as suitable as a welfare worker in Australia. You may still apply for Assessment, but note that the Assessment Fee is generally non-refundable. You might consider enrolling in a specific welfare work or social work course, either in your own country, or in Australia via a Student Visa. AIWCW cannot supply specific advice re courses in your own country, nor the processes or costs involved in study within Australia. Some guidance can be given regarding available courses in Australia, however.

## SECTION IV:

### GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS

AASW	Australian Association of Social Workers, the professional association for social workers in Australia. The AASW is the gazetted relevant assessing authority for overseas social workers wishing to migrate to Australia. Website <a href="http://www.aasw.asn.au">www.aasw.asn.au</a>
AIWCW	Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers, the Association for Community Service Professionals. The AIWCW is the gazetted relevant assessing authority for qualified welfare workers wishing to migrate to Australia. Website <a href="http://www.aiwcw.org.au">www.aiwcw.org.au</a>
DIMA	Australian Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs. (Now DIAC – Department of Immigration and Citizenship) Information and application forms for migration. Website <a href="http://www.immi.gov.au">www.immi.gov.au</a>
EMOQ	Eligibility for Membership of Overseas Qualified Social Workers Committee. The AASW Committee which oversees the assessment of overseas social work qualifications.
MAP	Membership Assessment Panel. The AIWCW panel comprised of professional welfare workers and/or welfare work educators which oversees the assessment of qualifications and experience to determine eligibility for membership of the professional body for welfare workers which is the criteria used to determine eligibility for assessment as a welfare worker for migration purposes.
Form WR1183	The application form for assessment of overseas welfare work qualifications where the applicant is an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, Australian temporary resident with a visa which permits work in Australia (where the assessment will not be used to change residency status); and New Zealand citizen.
Form SR1181	The application form for assessment of overseas social work qualifications where the applicant is an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident, Australian temporary resident with a visa which permits work in Australia (where the assessment will not be used to change residency status); and New Zealand citizen.

Form SWNR1182	The application form for assessment of overseas welfare and social workers, who are not Australian residents, or who need an assessment for the purposes of later lodging an application for permanent residency. If the qualifications are assessed as not meeting AASW requirements, they may be sent to the AIWCW for assessment against the requirements for welfare workers.
AEI-NOOSR	Australian Education International – National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition. Part of the Australian Government Department of Education, Science and Training. Website is <a href="http://aei.dest.gov.au">http://aei.dest.gov.au</a>

## SECTION V:

### CONTACT ADDRESSES

#### **AIWCW - Postal Address**

Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers  
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Email: [assessments@aiwcw.org.au](mailto:assessments@aiwcw.org.au)

Website: [www.aiwcw.org.au](http://www.aiwcw.org.au)

#### **AIWCW - Courier Address**

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#### **AEI-NOOSR**

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