



## Freedom of Information request: FA20/12/00628

**1) How many invitations will be allocated to each state and territory for the 2020/21 migration program for the 491 and 190 state programs. Please advise if this includes the preliminary allocation that had been given to each state from July to October 2020.**

The information requested in question 1 is available on the Department's website and I confirm that the published figures include the "preliminary" (interim) nomination allocations for 2020-21:  
<https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/what-we-do/migration-program-planning-levels>

**2) Please advise of any instructions given to the states and territories as to which occupations these can be used for.**

We strongly encourage jurisdictions to continue to focus on nominating applicants who are undertaking work in critical sectors. These applicants are a priority for Government in supporting economic recovery following the impacts of COVID-19. As specified in Ministerial Direction 87 signed on 1 September, the Department of Home Affairs will be focussing on processing applications which align with these priorities. Applicants who are not working in critical sectors or deemed to have critical skills are likely to have an increased wait time for an outcome on their visa application.

A reminder that further information regarding critical skills and sectors is available on the Department of Home Affairs website: <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/critical-skills-and-sectors#toc-1>