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## FAQs – frequently asked questions

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**Can you tell me if I will be suitable before I submit my application?**



Due to the extensive and complex nature of the ACs Migration Skills Assessment, it is not possible to offer pre-assessment advice. A formal assessment needs to be completed before any advice is provided.

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**Which ICT qualifications or subjects should I study?**



ACS is unable to provide career or employment advice to applicants. Qualifications regarding specific education and career outcomes are at the discretion of the student.

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**Is my course accredited?**



Accreditation has no impact on the outcome of your ACS Migration Skills Assessment application or the assessment of a qualification.



### Do you accept vendor certifications?

Yes, but only in certain circumstances:

1. Applicants under the RPL Assessment Pathway must provide and upload evidence of acceptable completed vendor certificates to demonstrate current knowledge in their chosen occupation and ANZSCO code. Only certain vendor certifications are accepted.
2. When applying under DevOps and Cyber Security optional evidence of vendor certification may be provided. [See Vendor Certifications for details.](#)

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### I have a masters degree, should I provide my undergraduate qualifications?

If you have a master's degree, please provide all documentation for the underpinning qualifications, such as a bachelor's degree, including non-ICT qualifications.

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### How much work experience do I need to demonstrate to meet ACS requirements?

Your qualification level, ICT course content and relevance of your qualification to the nominated occupation will determine how many years work experience you will require.

This can only be determined at the time of formal assessment.

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### What if I cannot provide an employer reference?

If you are unable to obtain an employment reference on a company letterhead from your employer, a third party official Statutory Declaration or Affidavit written by a work colleague may be considered along with one of the following as supporting evidence:

- Employment certificate/statement of service
- Leaving certificate if no longer working at the same company



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level for your position.

Please refer to the [Experience Evidence](#) for more detailed information.

### Can I have part-time work assessed?

Full-time work is considered to be 20 hours or more per week and must be stated in the employment reference letter. Any experience less than 20 hours per week will be assessed as unsuitable.

### I was working part time whilst I was studying. Will this experience be assessed?

If your work experience was a requirement of your qualification, this will not be counted towards your assessment.

### I was working in more than one job at the same time. Can I claim for both periods of employment?

Yes. If two or more relevant work episodes overlapped or occurred within the same period, then both experiences will be considered toward your assessment outcome. However, when calculating your total experience, any overlapping periods will only be counted once. So, for example, if you have two relevant work episodes that ran for one year but overlapped by three months, then both episodes will be listed as wholly accepted and suitable on the assessment result. However, the total experience counted towards your Requirement Met Date will only be 1 year and 9 months.

### How does ACS assess qualifications recognised under the Seoul Accord?

Seoul Accord is a multilateral agreement between countries that allows certain University level Bachelor and Master degrees to be recognized by the [Seoul Accord signatories](#). ACS has been a signatory of the Seoul Accord since its conception in 2008.

Qualifications that are ACS accredited or recognised through mutual recognition under the Seoul Accord will be considered to have met the ICT major criteria for migration skills assessment purposes. However, for qualifications to be accepted as ICT major, they will still be expected to meet or be comparable to the ACS accreditation standards. The assessor will have discretion to determine this at the time of assessment.



If you are a skilled IT, Data Science or Cyber Security professional or international student who wishes to migrate to Australia, you will need to have your skills and knowledge assessed through the ACS Migration Skills Assessment BEFORE you can apply for a visa.

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### What documents are required for the ACS Migration Skills Assessment?

When lodging your application for the ACS Migration Skills Assessment, you will be required to submit a range of documents, depending on your Assessment Pathway.

Post Australian Studies - documents required:

- Proof of identity
- Evidence of qualifications
- Evidence of work experience or completed ACS Professional Year

General Skills - documents required:

- Proof of identity
- Evidence of qualifications
- Evidence of work experience

RPL – documents required:

- Proof of identity
- Evidence of work experience
- Two [RPL project reports](#)
- [Professional Currency evidence](#)

Temporary Graduate 485 – documents required:

- Proof of identity
  - Evidence of qualifications
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No, you do not have to be an ACS member to apply for, or submit, an application for the ACS Migration Skills Assessment. When you start your application online, you will be offered a complimentary 12-month ACS membership. ACS members enjoy a wide range of membership benefits including exclusive events, offers, training and career development opportunities.

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#### Will I receive confirmation after I apply?

After submitting your skills application, you will receive email confirmation with an ACS reference number.

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#### How do I check the status of my application?

The progress of your application can be tracked via your [applicant portal](#) using your email address and password.

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#### How do I change my address or contact details?

You can update your address or contact details via your [applicant portal](#).

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#### How long does the assessment take?

For applications that do not require any requests for additional documentation or information, please allow between 4 - 6 weeks for the skills assessment to be completed.

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#### Can I change my migration agent or remove them and continue the application as an individual?

You can change your migration agent or remove them at any point in time via your [applicant portal](#) and select to either authorise or de-authorise.

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An external (level 2) then becomes available if you disagree with the outcome of your Migration Skills Assessment Appeal. In this case, you can request a review of your application by an external expert or independent assessor to validate the results of the Appeal assessment.

External Review of Migration Skills Assessment Appeal

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### When can I lodge an appeal?

You can launch a level 1 appeal of your Migration Skills Assessment outcome within 60 days of receipt of the outcome – i.e. from the date on your skills assessment result letter. After the 60-day period, a new application is required.

You must initiate the level 1 appeal via the applicant portal and provide additional records and documentation via the portal (if required).

You may launch an external level 2 Appeal within 30 days of the receipt of the level 1 appeal outcome – i.e. from the date on your level 1 appeal result letter. After the 30-day period, a new application is required.

The applicant must initiate the level 2 appeal via email to [level2appeal@acs.org.au](mailto:level2appeal@acs.org.au). The applicant is not permitted to provide additional records and documentation to support the level 2 appeal.

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### How long does a level 1 appeal or level 2 appeal take to process?

Please allow approximately 2-4 weeks for processing.

If the appeal concludes that the application was incorrectly assessed, ACS will fully refund your appeal fees.

If the additional evidence submitted via appeal changes the assessment outcome, ACS reserves the right to not refund your appeal fees.

If the appeal outcome agrees with the original assessment, ACS will not refund your appeal fees.

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