



IMMIGRATION UPDATE

Onshore priorities and review readiness

New directions prioritise onshore Skilled and Family applications, while review and invitation timing requires early preparation.

HOME AFFAIRS

Processing priorities and SkillSelect

Three new Ministerial Directions took effect on 25 July. They support onshore priority across Skilled and Family programs.

25 JUL

directions commenced

3

new directions

30 SEP

next 189 round by

10,000

June 189 invitations

Priority affects processing order, not eligibility. Keep SkillSelect EOIs accurate and current.

ART UPDATE

ART processing times

For migration reviews finalised from 1 December 2025 to 31 May 2026, 50% were finalised within 1 year 7 months and 95% within 2 years 10 months. These are historical figures, not an individual estimate.

WHAT TO CHECK NOW

- Update EOI points and supporting details.
- Plan visa status around realistic review timeframes.
- Do not delay time-limited review or court action.

CASE TO NOTE

Samuelu v Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

[2026] FCAFC 100

Full Federal Court | 5 August 2026

ISSUE

Whether the ART misapplied Direction No 110 when assessing community protection and the appellant's ties to Australia.

OUTCOME

The Full Court dismissed the appeal. It held that seriousness and likelihood of re-offending could be assessed separately if ultimately weighed together, and found no failure in the consideration of ties.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Evidence should connect directly to the required considerations.
- Judicial review concerns legal error, not a fresh merits decision.

LIMIT

Section 501 matters remain fact-dependent. This summary is not a substitute for the Court's reasons.

OFFICIAL SOURCES

Home Affairs: Processing directions [↗](#)

ART: Processing times [↗](#)

Federal Court: Samuelu [↗](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION ONLY

Not legal advice. Law, policy and processing practices may change after publication.

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