

## 2017 Skilled Migration List review

Response Summary:

Please enter your details below:\*

First name: Eithne

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**Your submission is on behalf of:\***

Professional body or industry association

**Position:**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

**Name of organisation:\***

Australian Dental Association

**Approved sponsor:\***

No

**Are you an Australian assessing authority for migration purposes?\***

No

**Industry your submission is in relation to:\***

Health Care and Social Assistance, Professional, Scientific and Technical

**Do you have a particular regional interest?\***

No

**What occupations should be added to the Medium and Long-term Strategic Skills List (MLTSSL)?\***

**Please outline the evidence or data that would support these occupation being added to the MLTSSL.**  
[Max 2,000 characters]

**What occupations do you recommend should be added to the STSOL?\***

**Please outline the evidence or data that would support these occupations being added to the STSOL.**  
[Max 2,000 characters]

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**What occupations should be removed from the MLTSSL or the STSOL?\***

252312 Dentist

**Please outline the evidence or data that would support these occupations being removed from the MLTSSL or STSOL.**

**[Max 2,000 characters]**

There are continued reports of unemployment and underemployment for dentists across both the public and private sectors. Employment vacancies are extremely low and there has been a large drop in dentist graduates obtaining full time employment. The ADA hosts a free job posting portal for its members. Analysis of the jobs advertised over the last few years indicate a growing increase in the number of part-time positions and a falling proportion of full-time opportunities across all states and territories. Workforce projections undertaken in 2008 estimated that approximately 15,000 dentists would be required by 2020. Registration figures show that this requirement has already been exceeded with more than 16,000 dentists now registered to practice in 2017. In 2014, Health Workforce Australia undertook a supply and demand study of the oral health workforce which demonstrated that there is "supply in excess of demand" not just for dentists but also with respect to dental hygienists, dental therapists and oral health therapists until at least 2025. This result alone supports the removal of dentists from the MLTSSL. With uncapped Commonwealth supported places available, Australia is producing more graduates than is required to meet those retiring. The excess supply of dentists is already recognised by the removal of the occupation of dentists from the STSOL. This occupation should now also be removed from the MLTSSL.

**Do you have any supporting material?**

Yes

**File attached:**

AFHW - Oral Health Overview report.pdf

**How would you like your submission to be treated?\***

Publish my submission in full on the website

**Would you like us to publish your supporting material with your submission?\***

Yes

**Please ensure you have read and understand to the Departments Terms and Conditions (opens in a new window) before submitting this form:\***

I have read and agree the terms and conditions

**How did you hear about the survey?**

Email from the Department of Employment