

Working With Children Check

A Working With Children Check is a prerequisite for anyone in child-related work. It involves a national criminal history check and review of findings of workplace misconduct.

The result of a Working With Children Check is either a clearance to work with children for five years, or a bar against working with children. Cleared applicants are subject to ongoing monitoring, and relevant new records may lead to the clearance being revoked.

The Check is fully portable which means it can be used for any paid or unpaid child-related work in NSW for as long as the worker remains cleared.

The Check is not the only resource available to organisations to keep children safe.

For full details, go to **The Office of the Children's Guardian** website (www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au)

Fees

Only paid workers are required to pay the \$80 fee for a five year clearance. This equates to \$16 per year, the lowest cost for Check in Australia. If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to Roads and Maritime Services. **The fee is not refundable if you become barred, withdraw your application, or choose 'paid' instead of 'volunteer' on your application form.** The Working With Children Check remains free for:

1. Volunteers
2. Students over 18 on professional placement
3. Potential adoptive parents
4. Authorised carers
5. Adults who reside in the home of:
 - an authorised carer
 - a family day care service provider
 - a home-based education and care service provider.

When to apply for the Check

If you are starting a new paid job in child-related work, you must apply for a Check before you start work.

If you are already in paid child-related work, or you are a volunteer, you will be phased in over a five year period, according to your industry sector. For full details, see the FACT SHEET: Phase in schedule.

If you are self employed and hold a Certificate for Self Employed People, you can continue to use this until it expires, then you must apply for a Check.