

The NDIS Worker Screening Check (general stakeholders)

This fact sheet details what the NDIS Worker Screening Check is and why it is important.

The NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework

In 2016, all Australian Governments agreed to an <u>NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework</u> (Framework). The Framework provides a nationally consistent approach to help empower and support NDIS participants to exercise choice and control, while ensuring appropriate safeguards are in place. It also establishes expectations for providers and their staff to deliver high quality supports.

As part of the Framework, all states and territories committed to a nationally consistent worker screening process. The new NDIS Worker Screening Check forms part of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Quality and Safeguarding Framework.

What is the NDIS Worker Screening Check?

The NDIS Worker Screening Check (Worker Screening Check) is a check conducted by state and territory Worker Screening Units on behalf of the NDIS Commission, based on nationally consistent criteria. State and Territory Worker Screening Units conduct checks of people who are engaged in providing certain supports to people with a disability.

The check determines whether a person is cleared or excluded from working in certain roles. Workers have an initial check and then are subject to ongoing monitoring by the Worker Screening Units, to ensure their ongoing suitability to work with people with disability.

Registered NDIS providers are required to engage only workers who have a check. Employers will be able to tell you whether you are required to get and maintain a Worker Screening Check.

Unregistered NDIS providers and self-managed participants are encouraged to also request a Worker Screening Check for all workers that they employ. This will assure they are being provided with safe and high quality services and supports.



What will the Worker Screening Check do?

The Worker Screening Check will:

- assist with the recruitment selection and ongoing suitability of workers who are engaged by registered NDIS providers
- ensure self-managed and plan-managed participants' informed choice and control by requesting their workers obtain an NDIS Worker Screening Check before engaging them
- allow workers with an NDIS Worker Screening Check to work in risk assessed roles with NDIS providers in any state or territory across Australia and
- improve the quality and safety of NDIS supports to NDIS participants by ensuring workers engaged in certain roles have a Worker Screening Check

How long is the NDIS Worker Screening clearance valid?

NDIS Worker Screening clearances expire every five (5) years.

Workers with an NDIS Worker Screening Check are subject to ongoing monitoring against police and other relevant information.

This means at any time a NDIS Worker Screening clearance Check can be re-assessed if it is suggested that the worker poses a risk to people with disability. If this happens, the worker may be excluded from having an NDIS Worker Screening clearance before their existing NDIS Worker Screening clearance expires.

Additional information

Legislation

- NDIS (Practice Standards Worker Screening) Rules 2018
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013

NDIS Commission website

- <u>Glossary</u> of terms used in this fact sheet.
- General information about worker requirements.
- Information about the <u>NDIS Worker Screening Check for registered NDIS providers</u>.
- NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators.