

DEC International Changes to the Working With Children Check (WWCC)

Under the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2012 and Child Protection (Working with Children) Regulation 2013, all adults in child-related work (including providing guardianship and residential services to students under 18) must lodge an application with the Office of the Children's Guardian for a Working With Children Check.

Changes to regulation now require that all applications be lodged by the applicant directly through the Office of the Children's Guardian and there are now two types of WWCC – paid employment and volunteer.

The paid employment check is required for the primary carer/nominated homestay only and the cost is \$80 payable to the Office of the Children's Guardian. This is required for all homestay arrangements that are approved by DEC International.

Other homestay household members over 18 may apply for the volunteer check, which does not attract a fee. Both types of check receive clearances that are valid for 5 years and are transferrable between providers and employers.

Applications can be lodged by following these steps:

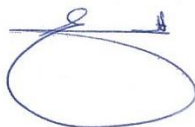
1. Go to www.check.kids.nsw.gov.au and complete the online form for the relevant check. Once completed the website will provide you with an application number
2. Visit your local "NSW Roads and Maritime Services" office with your application number and provide appropriate identification documentation to verify your identity
3. At the same time, if you are applying for a paid employment check then you will need to pay \$80 at the "NSW Roads and Maritime Services" office. No fee payment is required for volunteer checks.

Once completed the applicant will be issued by the Office of the Children's Guardian with a clearance number, which must be provided to your registering homestay provider to record and validate. Please allow at least 2 week for this process.

Where a volunteer clearance has been provided in place of a paid employment clearance the primary carer/nominated homestay will be required to re-apply for a paid employment check. Approval for a homestay family will only be provided once all required checks are completed and home inspection has found that the home meets DEC minimum standards. Other requirements for DEC approval remain unchanged including annual inspections to ensure homes meet the standards.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding as compliance with these new regulations is compulsory. If you have any questions regarding these new arrangements, please contact your homestay provider who will be able to assist you with your enquiry.

Yours sincerely



Senior Student Adviser
DEC International
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