



Fact sheet

## 2023–24 Compliance and enforcement policy and priorities

### About Blue Card Services compliance

Blue Card Services administers the blue card system (working with children check) in Queensland. The blue card system is governed by the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*.

Blue Card Services Compliance team monitors and audits compliance with the blue card system. Where serious compliance issues are found, the team works closely with the Queensland Police Service (the QPS) and other regulatory partners to address non-compliance.

We help to achieve DJAG's vision: *Justice for all through safe, fair and responsible communities by supporting the delivery of a responsive regulatory service.*

We protect and promote the safety and wellbeing of children in regulated service environments by educating our stakeholders about their legislative obligations and taking enforcement action where necessary.

### Objectives

Working within the legislation, Blue Card Services Compliance team seeks to achieve compliance within regulated organisations by:

- Focusing on prevention and early intervention through education
- Correcting administrative breaches to make sure the blue card system is being applied correctly
- Ensuring ongoing compliance with the law, and preventing future offending and unsafe conduct.

### Approach

Blue Card Services use a range of strategies to achieve compliance and create safer environments for children and young people in Queensland.

Our compliance approach involves working with child-related organisations to build capacity and undertake continuous improvement. We undertake both targeted and organisation-wide audits where potential non-compliance is identified to ensure risks to children are identified and addressed.

Where an educative approach is not appropriate, potential breaches of the legislation are referred to the QPS for investigation and possible prosecution.

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## Overall approach

Approach	What we do
<b>Enforce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Refer breaches of the blue card system to the Queensland Police Service and other regulatory partners.</li></ul>
<b>Monitor compliance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Audits of regulated organisations</li><li>• Conduct investigations of high-risk individuals to ensure compliance with the blue card system</li><li>• Identify trends to audit and educate.</li></ul>
<b>Capacity building and continuous improvement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide resources and guidance to help organisations be child-safe</li><li>• Focus on prevention and intervention through early education</li><li>• Promote understanding of obligations and the importance of compliance.</li></ul>

## 2023–24 priorities



### Reduce misuse of blue card screening

Focused engagement with government departments to help identify areas of misuse of blue card screening where not legislatively required, and address specific individual and environmental risks through tailored risk management policies and practices.



### Support First Nations applicants and communities

Focused engagement with First Nations applicants, employers and communities to support compliance with blue card system requirements and reduce the impact of the misuse of blue card screening.



### Proactive audit of exemption card holders

Targeted engagement with exemption card holders (and linked organisations) to ensure that renewal applications required under *No Card No Start* laws are submitted where required and address any identified breaches.