

Blue cards and working for Youth Justice

This fact sheet provides answers to frequently asked questions about blue cards and working for Youth Justice.

What do I need to apply for a blue card?

To apply for a blue card you need a Customer Reference Number (CRN) from the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). A CRN is the number on your driver licence, photo identity card or proof-of-age card. You can find more information about locating your CRN on TMR's website.

We use TMR to verify your identity to obtain the photo for your blue card. If you do not have a CRN, or your photo was taken more than six years and 11 months ago, you will need to update your photo before applying for a blue card. You can apply for a CRN or update your photo with TMR for free by visiting a [TMR Customer Service Centre](#).

Once you have got your CRN and photo taken, you can apply online or by completing a paper form.

There is a fee for your blue card application if you're a paid employee, business operator or a jobseeker getting a blue card for paid work and this will be payable at the time of your application.



Can I apply for a blue card if I live outside Queensland?

Yes, if you do not live in Queensland and cannot attend a TMR Customer Service Centre to get a CRN, you can complete a [remote pack](#). You can also complete a remote pack if you cannot attend TMR because you live in a remote area of Queensland.



Can I apply for a blue card if I have criminal history?

To help ensure the safety of children and young people in Queensland, the blue card system stops certain people from holding or applying for a blue card such as people convicted of disqualifying offences or current negative notice holders.

All disqualifying offences and serious offences are listed in the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* and you can read more by visiting www.qld.gov.au/bluecardeligibility

If you have been convicted of a serious offence you can still apply for a blue card, however you may be asked to [make a submission](#) in support of your application.



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Is the 'blue card check' the same as a police check?



No, the blue card check, also known as the Working with Children Check (WWCC), is unique to the blue card system and is different from a standard police check.

The WWCC involves a [National Reference System \(NRS\) check](#). If you have an adverse WWCC in another state, your application will be withdrawn). Following the NRS check, we conduct a national criminal history check. The WWCC will consider all relevant offences back to when the applicant was 10yrs of age.

All blue card applications are subject to the WWCC and are screened the same way, regardless of whether they are a paid, volunteer or business application.

[Read more about the blue card check](#)

Are blue card holders monitored?

Yes. All applicants, blue and exemption card holders are monitored on a daily basis by the Queensland Police Service.

This enables Blue Card Services to take immediate action to protect children and young people if the person is charged with a concerning offence.



What happens if I have a change in my police information?

As an applicant or card holder, you must immediately tell us if your police information changes by completing a change in police information notification. A change in police information includes:

- Any charge or conviction for an offence (conviction means being found guilty by a court, or the acceptance of a plea of guilty by a court, regardless if a conviction is recorded and regardless of when and where it took place).
- The existence of police investigative information relating to allegations of serious child-related sexual offences, even if no charges were laid.
- Being the subject of an application for a disqualification order (i.e. an order that prohibits a person from holding or applying for a blue/exemption card).
- Being respondent to an application for offender prohibition order under the *Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004*.
- Becoming subject to reporting obligations or a child protection offender prohibition order under the *Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004*, or a disqualification order, or a sexual offender order.

We will notify employers of a change in police information when the change is considered relevant to child-related employment. The maximum penalty for failing to report a change in your police information is 100 penalty units.

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What happens if I already have a blue card and start working with Youth Justice?

If you have a paid blue card, you simply need to give your blue card details to the HR/recruitment officer at Youth Justice. Once you are offered employed with Youth Justice, they will link you to their organisation.

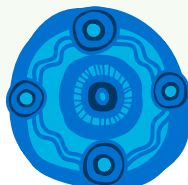
If you have a volunteer blue card, you simply need to give your blue card details to the HR/recruitment officer at Youth Justice. Once you are offered employed with Youth Justice, you will need to complete the volunteer to paid application using the online applicant portal and paper form and pay the fee.

Youth Justice will be able to see when your paid application has been approved. You will receive a new blue card and expiry date.

Will I have to wait for my blue card to arrive before I can start work?

We will send you an email or letter to tell you when your blue card application has been approved. This email or letter will have your blue card number on it.

You can show this to your employer who will confirm your identity and validate your blue card number. Your employer must then link you to their organisation before you start working for them.



Renewing my blue card



You will need to renew your blue card before it expires to continue working with kids and you can renew your blue card up to 16 weeks before it expires. You can renew your card online using the online applicant portal or using the paper form.

When you are submitting your renewal application, if you are not sure how long ago your photo was taken with TMR, give us a call on 1800 113 611 and we can help you. If your photo was taken more than six years and nine months ago, you will need to visit a TMR Customer Service Centre and get a new photo taken.

When you renew your blue card before it expires, you can continue working in child-regulated work whilst your application is being processed.

If your card expires, before you submit your renewal application, you must stop working in child-regulated employment until your new card is issued.

Need more information?



You can call Blue Card Services on **1800 113 611** or **07 3211 6999** Monday to Friday between 8am and 5pm.

We have more information on our website www.qld.gov.au/bluecard

If you need an interpreter, contact Language Loop on **1800 512 451**.