

Working with Children Check Exemption Guidance

QLD

If a volunteer falls into one of the exempt categories, they will not be required to undergo a **Working with Children Check (Blue Card).** This will be the case even while performing 'child-related work' and the work falls into one of the categories of regulated employment.

Volunteers are exempt if they are:

- Volunteers who meet the criteria for the *Frequency Test*, meaning that the child-related work doesn't exceed seven days in a calendar year. For this test, a day includes a part or full day, and a calendar year covers 1 Jan to 31 Dec.
- Queensland police officers or corrective services officers providing services as part of their professional duties*
- Registered teachers with the Queensland College of Teachers in schools providing services as part of their professional duties*

*Police officers and registered teachers engaged in work outside of their professional duties, (for example, where a police officer volunteers at a local sporting club or a registered teacher tutors students privately), must instead apply for an exemption card (rather than a Blue Card).

Screening for interstate and overseas volunteers:

If a volunteer has a Working with Children Check from another state or territory and wants to work in Queensland, they will need to obtain a Blue Card. Queensland does not recognise Working with Children Checks conducted outside of Queensland.

However, interstate visitors can engage in some child-related work in Queensland without a Blue Card if they are:

- working with children for no more than seven days in a calendar year
- working for the Queensland Police.

An important note about restricted persons and those with a 'negative notice'

- A person cannot engage in this work if they are a restricted person under the Working with Children Act, irrespective of whether it is for a period of no more than seven days in a calendar year.
- Anyone who has received a 'negative notice' is strictly prohibited from engaging in any child-related work as an employee or volunteer.

For more information on individuals requiring a Blue Card, visit the <u>QLD Government, Blue Card</u> <u>Services page here</u>.