

# Aged care worker screening – proposed changes for aged care workers from 1 July 2025

This fact sheet outlines the proposed changes for how employers will need to consider police certificates for the aged care sector workforce from 1 July 2025. These changes will help the sector prepare for wider changes to worker screening in 2026.

### What will remain the same from 1 July 2025?

As with current arrangements, to work in aged care you will need either:

- a police certificate (not older than 3 years) that does not record certain offences
- a National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Worker Check.

This extends to any responsible persons, such as a CEO or Board member.

The offences that will stop you from working for a **registered provider** from 1 July 2025 <u>will</u> remain the same:

- conviction for murder
- conviction for sexual assault
- conviction and imprisonment sentence for any other form of assault.

The offences that will stop you from working for a **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program (NATSIFACP) provider** from 1 July 2025 <u>will remain</u> <u>the same</u>:

- a conviction for an offence involving the death of a person
- in the past 5 years, a conviction and imprisonment sentence for 1 year or longer for:
  - o a sex related offence or a crime, including sexual assault (whether against an adult or child)
  - child pornography
  - o an indecent act involving a child
  - o a crime or offence involving dishonesty that is not minor.

If your police certificate 'expires' (i.e. it is more than 3 years old) after 1 July 2025, but before the new aged care worker screening process starts in 2026, you will need to obtain a new police certificate for re-assessment by your employer.

### What will be different from 1 July 2025?

From 1 July 2025, the offences that will stop you from working for a **Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) provider** will align to the same set of offences that stop you from working for a NATSIFACP provider listed above.

This will apply:

- if you start working for a CHSP provider from 1 July 2025
- if you already work for a CHSP provider and need to renew your police certificate after 1 July 2025.

## What if my circumstances change after my certificate was assessed?

As is the case now, you must immediately notify your employer if you are charged with any of the offences outlined above. If you have an NDIS Worker Check, you must also immediately notify your employer if it is suspended or cancelled.

Depending on the offence and the provider type you work for, and if you receive a conviction or prison sentence, this may result in you being unable to continue working in the sector.

### What is the future of aged care worker screening?

Together with states and territories, the Australian Government is working towards the introduction of requirements for aged care worker screening to align with the NDIS. This will mean more robust screening checks for the aged care sector. An aged care worker screening check will be recognised in the NDIS sector and vice versa.

Final arrangements are subject to agreement with the states and territories, and will not commence before 2026.

Further information leading up to commencement of the new screening process for aged care will be available at: <a href="www.health.gov.au/topics/aged-care-workforce/screening-requirements">www.health.gov.au/topics/aged-care-workforce/screening-requirements</a>.

### Let's change aged care together

We invite Australians to continue to have their say about the aged care reforms.

- Visit agedcareengagement.health.gov.au
- Phone **1800 318 209** (Aged care reform free-call phone line)

For translating and interpreting services, call 131 450 and ask for 1800 318 209. To use the National Relay Service, visit nrschat.nrscall.gov.au/nrs to choose your preferred access point on their website, or call the NRS Helpdesk on 1800 555 660.