

June 2021 Newsletter



Update from the Commissioner

I am pleased to invite you to join us for our online launch event at 10am on Thursday 1 July, marking the introduction of Victoria's disability worker registration.

As the Chair of the Disability Worker Registration Board of Victoria, Melanie Eagle will explain on the day, the voluntary registration of disability workers is the first of its kind in Australia and provides rigorous standards for safety, skills and professionalism.

The event includes speakers across the disability sector and those who featured in our latest registration campaign. It will be hosted by Chris Van Ingen who lives with cerebral palsy, is a poet, public speaker and actor. You can join us live via [our registration event launch page](#).

You may have had the chance to see our latest campaign promoting registration. The advertisements have been broadcast across social media and radio stations, Fox FM, Gold FM, Smooth FM and Vision Australia stations. If you haven't seen the campaign yet, we really encourage you to take a look at our standout videos [here](#).

May and June saw us celebrate National Reconciliation Week, 27 May to 3 June. I congratulate Balit Narrum and Brotherhood of St Laurence who brought us a showcase of five short films, [My Everyday Life](#), which explores the stories of Aboriginal community members with disability, receiving support from the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



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recently announced easing of COVIDSafe settings in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. Disability workers and service providers should ensure they are up to date with what these changes mean for the disability sector. The latest information can be found on the [Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Community services website](#).

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission continues to provide an independent complaints service. The Commission can take and investigate complaints about any Victorian disability worker, no matter how they are funded. It doesn't matter if workers are registered or unregistered and if you're not sure or need help making a complaint, our skilled and professional intake officers can help so just call 1800 497 132 between 9:30am and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday or you can make a complaint or notification via our [online form](#).

As always, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn and let friends and colleagues know that they can subscribe to receive updates at www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe.

News and updates



Join our online registration launch event

The Disability Worker Registration Board of Victoria and Victorian Disability Worker Commission invite you to join us for an online launch event at **10am on Thursday 1 July** to mark the introduction of Victoria's disability worker registration.

The voluntary registration of disability workers is the first of its kind in Australia and provides rigorous standards for safety, skills and professionalism.

Registration is part of new safeguards developed in response to recommendations of the Victorian Parliament's 2016 Inquiry into Abuse in Disability Services. Victoria is leading the way in the highest standards of support for people with disability.



Disability worker registration opens 1 July

Voluntary registration of Victorian disability workers starts on 1 July. It is the first of its kind in Australia and provides rigorous standards for safety, skills and professionalism.

The safeguards are part of the Government's zero-tolerance approach to neglect and abuse of people with disability, developed in response to recommendations of the Victorian Parliament's 2016 Inquiry into Abuse in Disability Services.

There's no better time than now to join as the first year of registration is free and two years of experience is recognised in lieu of a formal qualification in disability. Applications can be made online from 1 July at www.vdwc.vic.gov.au on the 'How to register' page.

To register, applicants need to complete a webform to prove their identity, agree to a national police check, and provide personal details and upload or provide relevant documents.

Disability workers can register in two divisions: registered disability practitioners and registered disability support workers.

There are three pathways available to applicants in the first year. These are the qualification, training, or professional experience pathways. To qualify, applicants only need to meet the requirements of **one** of the pathways.

More information can be found on [registration page of the Victorian Disability Worker Commission website](#).

Workers that are not registered are still required to abide by a Code of Conduct. This provides a standard to protect people using disability services from harm and abuse.

Everyone living with disability deserves a safe choice.

that matters.

Resources

New fact sheets including in-language translations are now available

A range of new fact sheets about registration are now available on the Victorian Disability Worker Commission [registration page](#).

These include fact sheets for disability workers, service providers and people with disability.

Our registration fact sheets are also available on our [in your language page](#) in a range of new translations, including Arabic, Sinhalese and Traditional Chinese.

If you can't find the resources you are looking for or have additional questions, you can contact us:

- at [our website](#)
- by phone on 1800 497 132 between 9,30am and 4,30pm, Monday to Friday.

Keep in touch

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch via our website [Contact us](#) page, send an email to info@vdwc.vic.gov.au or call us on 1800 497 132.

For more information visit vdwc.vic.gov.au



Our mailing address is:

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