

The differences between an NDIS Worker Screening Check and the Working with Children Check

Certain people who work, or will be working, for a registered NDIS provider, in a risk assessed role and who work with children will need to be screened and hold both a Working with Children (WWC) Card and an NDIS Worker Screening Check (NDIS Check) clearance in order to do so.

The NDIS Check and WWC Check both involve different legislation. The NDIS Check is based on the [National Disability Insurance Scheme \(Worker Screening\) Act 2020](#) and the WWC Check is based on the [Working with Children \(Screening\) Act 2004 \(WA\)](#).

Under legislation, each of the two checks consider different types of information and factors when determining whether the individual's past behaviours present an unacceptable risk of harm.

	NDIS Check	WWC Check
		
Paramount consideration	The safety and wellbeing of people with disability and, in particular, their right to live free from abuse, violence, neglect and exploitation.	The best interests of children .
Relevant legislation	<i>National Disability Insurance Scheme (Worker Screening) Act 2020</i>	<i>Working with Children (Screening) Act 2004</i>
Administered by	The NDIS Worker Screening Unit in Western Australia. Each jurisdiction will have their own Worker Screening Unit.	The Working with Children Screening Unit in Western Australia.

	NDIS Check	WWC Check
Who needs this Check?	<p><u>Mandatory</u></p> <p>For people who are to be engaged in a 'risk assessed role' for a registered NDIS provider.</p>	<p><u>Mandatory</u></p> <p>For people who are to be engaged in certain paid or unpaid work with children, described as 'child-related work'*</p> <p>*Categories of 'child-related work'.</p>
	<p><u>Not Mandatory</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For workers in non-risk assessed roles who are working for registered NDIS providers • For people who are providing supports and services to NDIS self-managed participants • For people who work for unregistered NDIS providers. <p>An NDIS Check may be requested at the choice of the employer.</p>	
Portability	The outcome is portable across employers throughout Australia.	The outcome is WA-based (including Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands) and not portable throughout Australia.
Triggers for assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal charges/convictions • Disciplinary/misconduct information • Self-disclosure information (such as refusal of a previous screening check, relevant civil penalties, international criminal history, child protection orders and any relevant workplace misconduct findings) • any other relevant information. <p>An assessment can be triggered solely on a person's disciplinary/misconduct information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal charges/convictions. • Conduct review information including relevant disciplinary/misconduct matters from the Ombudsman and Teacher Registration Board.
Cleared worker	If your NDIS Check application is approved, you will be granted an NDIS Check clearance and notified via email. You will not receive a physical card.	If your check is successful you will be issued an Assessment Notice in the form of a physical WWC Check card.
Review of adverse decisions	An internal review is conducted prior to an applicant seeking external review.	No provision for internal review. Review of decisions are carried out externally.
Validity period	Five (5) years.	Three (3) years.