

Working with Children Check bulletin

Events - Who needs a WWC Check?

The Working with Children (WWC) Screening Unit is aware there are often queries around who needs to have a WWC Check at certain events. The following information is provided to help organisations understand and meet their obligations under the *Working with Children (Screening) Act 2004* (the Act).

- For individuals to be eligible for a WWC Check, the **usual duties** of their role must involve, or be likely to involve, **contact** with a **child** in connection with at least one of the **categories** of **child-related work**, and no [exemptions](#) apply.
- Complying with the Act does not mean that all **individuals** at an **organisation** must apply for a WWC Check.
- Category 18: a children's entertainment or party service is the most commonly used category for the events sector. Refer to [Factsheet CAT18 – Categories of child-related work, 18: A children's entertainment or party service](#) for further information. People working in the following scenarios are likely to require WWC Checks under this category:
 - child specific events, for example a blue light disco
 - 'children's entertainment' activities at events for the public (including at events targeting families), for example arts and crafts workshops and face painting.
- Please note that, category 18 has a specific exemption relevant to events, for services that only provide equipment, food, or a venue. This means, people working in the following scenarios are ineligible for WWC Checks:
 - individuals only operating rides, including securing children onto the ride or instructing children how to use certain equipment at an event
 - individuals who only serve food to children at events.
- There is no category of child-related work, and therefore a WWC Check is not required, for:
 - events for the public, where staff interact with attendees of all ages, but offer no children's entertainment
 - staff who might have **incidental contact** with children while setting-up/packing-down an event.
- The definition of usual duties is a common query around short term events. Organisations should consider whether it is an expected part of their role, even if the event only happens once a year.

- Where your event hires third-party entertainers/organisations, it is their responsibility to ensure that they comply with the Act. However, you may wish to have it in writing from them that they understand and comply with their obligations under the Act.
- The WWC Check is one of a number of child safety measures. To find out more about the other strategies your organisation can utilise, visit the [Safer WA for Children and Young People](#) website.

Please contact WWCCommunityengagement@communities.wa.gov.au if you have further queries.

Definitions of **bold** terms can be found in the Working with Children Check glossary at www.workingwithchildren.wa.gov.au