

What if I don't want to treat children or don't want to apply for a WWC Check (or equivalent)?

Each Australian State and Territory requires people who are likely to engage in direct-contact activities with children throughout the period of their employment or studies to undergo a Working with Children Check (WWC Check) or its equivalent. Direct contact means physical, face-to-face, written, oral or electronic contact.

As part of your clinical/practicum components, you will be exposed to persons under the age of 18 (and them to you) as you perform a range of different activities.

Holding a valid WWC Check or its equivalent is a condition of enrolment for all Bachelor of Health Science courses, regardless of your specialisation.

How do I apply and what do I need for a WWC Check (or equivalent)?

There is no single national system setting out the requirements for obtaining a Working with Children Check (WWC Check) or its equivalent. Each State and Territory has their own legislative requirements (except Tasmania) and it is necessary to fulfil the requirements in the jurisdiction in which you are working or studying (for international students, this is the State in which you are enrolled).

For a full guide of how to apply for a WWC Check in your particular state please visit endeavour.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/college-faqs

Further Information for WWC Check

FAQs:

endeavour.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/college-faqs and search for *Working with Children Checks FAQs*

Policy:

endeavour.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/college-policies and search for *Working with Children Checks Policy*

Contact the College WWC Check team:

✉ WWCChecks@endeavour.edu.au

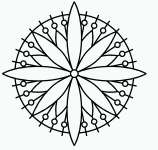
Contact us

Student Services

☎ 1300 462 887 (choose option 2)
✉ student.services@endeavour.edu.au

Student Assistance Program (SAP)

☎ 1800 336 207 (Confidential counselling 24/7)
🔍 accesseap.com.au



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Working with Children Check FAQs

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Connect with Student Services

What is a Working with Children Check (or equivalent)?

A Working with Children Check (WWC Check) or its equivalent is an assessment of your suitability for child-related work in the context of direct-contact activities. This 'screening' of individuals is intended to help protect children from being exposed to harm. Children are considered to be anyone under the age of 18.

Do I need a WWC Check (or equivalent)?

Any person over the age of 18 enrolling into a course that has a clinical/practicum component that may require them to come into 'direct contact' with children requires a WWC Check or its equivalent. In Queensland, students of any age enrolling into a course that has a clinical/practicum component that may require them to come into direct contact with children requires a WWC Check or its equivalent. Each Australian State and Territory requires people who are likely to engage in direct-contact activities with children throughout the period of their employment or studies to undergo a Working with Children Check (WWC Check) or its equivalent.

If you are enrolling in the Bachelor of Health Science, regardless of specialisation, you will require a WWC Check (or equivalent). For more information visit endeavour.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/college-policies and search for **Admissions Policy - Undergraduate - Higher Education**.

Students are required to hold the type of Check that is relevant to their current enrolment. e.g. If you are enrolled to study in NSW, you require a NSW issued WWC Check and you are required to attend clinical practicum subjects at a NSW campus. Should you hold a WWC Check (or equivalent) for a jurisdiction other than the one in which you are enrolled to study, you are required to obtain or transfer to the type of WWC Check (or equivalent) required by your local jurisdiction.

Students should be aware that maintaining a WWC Check or equivalent may be a requirement of their employment post-graduation if intending to practice on children or be employed in direct contact with children activities unless an exemption applies.

When do I need my Working with Children Check (or equivalent)?

All students requiring a WWC Check (or equivalent) are required to present it to the College to be validated **prior** to undertaking any work integrated learning or client-based clinical/practicum components of their qualification. This means:

- **Higher Education students (normal enrolment)** – where the student enters the course at the first semester, they must supply their WWC Check (or equivalent) **prior to the commencing of their second teaching period** (i.e. prior to their second semester)
- **Higher Education students (pathway enrolment)** – where the student enters the course at a later point through a pathway (e.g., moving from one course to another with advanced standing of at least one semester), they must supply their WWC Check (or equivalent) **on entry to the course** (i.e. prior to the start of the first semester)

What happens if I don't present a valid WWC Check (or equivalent) to the College within the required timeframe?

You will be excluded from clinic practicums and this can impact any assessable attendance/participation requirements resulting in a fail grade. If a valid WWC Check or equivalent is not presented and validated/verified and recorded by the College within the timeframes specified in the Working with Children Checks Policy your enrolment will be cancelled by the College.

Remain mindful that the College monitors the status of recorded WWC Checks (or its equivalent) during teaching periods. If your WWC Check or equivalent expires throughout a teaching period you will be excluded from clinical practicums after the expiry date.

How much will it cost?

The cost varies depending on which State or Territory you are enrolled in. For some jurisdictions the WWC Check or its equivalent is free and in others a fee may be charged by the State Authority. Refer to the jurisdictional information in the Application Process section of this document for links to exact fees or contact your State Authority.

Am I required to pay for my own WWC Check (or equivalent)?

Students requiring a WWC Check or equivalent are responsible for the initial and ongoing costs associated, including renewal. Payments are made directly to the relevant State Authority as part of the application and renewal processes. These application and renewal fees are not covered by or included in your tuition fees or FEE-HELP.

How long is a WWC Check (or equivalent) valid for?

Each State and Territory has different periods of currency ranging from 12 months to five years, unless a WWC Check or its equivalent is revoked earlier by the relevant authority

Do I have to renew my WWC Check (or equivalent)?

Yes. You are obligated under the Working with Children Checks Policy to maintain the currency of your WWC Check or its equivalent throughout the term of your enrolment with the College. You are legally obligated to notify the College if you fail to renew your WWC Check (or equivalent). The College is then legally obligated to prevent you from participating in clinical practicums. This exclusion could impact any assessable attendance/participation requirements for your enrolled subjects and result in a fail grade. If a valid WWC Check or equivalent is not presented to and verified/validated by the College within the timeframes specified in the Working with Children Checks Policy your enrolment will be cancelled by the College.

How far in advance do I need to renew my expiring WWC Check (or equivalent)?

Enrolled students that hold a WWC Check or equivalent with an approaching expiration date of six months or less should check with student services staff when renewal is required. Some jurisdictions require you to renew at this 'six months to go' milestone whilst others require anywhere from 2-6 months. Keep in mind that State Authorities experience peak processing periods at certain times during the calendar year and this can lengthen processing times.