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| Choosing a registered disability worker |
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# News article (500 words)

## Choosing a registered disability worker

The registration of disability workers in Victoria was introduced on 1 July and workers must meet rigorous standards for safety, skills and professionalism.

Registration is part of the strongest safeguards in Australia to protect people with a disability when accessing services they need, in response to recommendations of the Victorian Parliament’s 2016 Inquiry into Abuse in Disability Services.

This includes the creation of the Victorian Disability Worker Commission, the Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner and the Disability Worker Registration Board as regulators of the scheme.

In addition to the voluntary registration of disability workers, the regulation scheme enables the Commission to accept complaints about any disability worker in Victoria and requires all registered and unregistered disability workers to comply with a code of conduct.

Amidst the current global health crisis, and in the wake of recent high profile abuse cases, it is more important than ever that people with disability, their families and carers have access to support workers they can trust.

When choosing a registered worker, people with a disability can be confident they meet professional standards - no matter what service provider they work for, where they advertise their services or how their services are funded.

Disability workers must meet three standards for registration: A criminal history check, noting that the criteria is consistent with the NDIS worker screen; Competency in English and Continuing Professional Development – however CPD is not a requirement in the first year.

By choosing registered workers people with a disability also show their commitment to raising the standards in the sector. They can be confident in knowing that the person they choose to work beside them and with them, has been assessed and deemed qualified for this role.

A public register of disability workers will be available from 1 October 2021 on the Commission website www.vdwc.vic.gov.auproviding a quick and easy way to find a registered worker.

People with disability and their families can recognise a registered disability worker who will have a distinctive registration mark to show they have been independently assessed as safe and competent disability workers.

Everyone living with disability deserves a safe choice. Registration allows disability workers to be valued for the work they do, and difference they make in people’s lives.

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission continues to provide an independent complaints service. The Commission has a ‘no wrong door’ approach and can take and investigate complaints about any Victorian disability worker, no matter how they are funded. You can make a complaint or notification via the online form on the Commission website or call 1800 497 132 between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

You can find out more about disability worker registration on the Victorian Disability Worker Commission website [www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration](http://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration) or questions about registration can be lodged at info@vdwc.vic.gov.au.

**Stay informed by subscribing to the** [**VDWC newsletter**](https://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/about/contact-us) **and following on**[**LinkedIn**](https://www.linkedin.com/company/vdwcommission)**,**[**Twitter**](https://twitter.com/VDWCommission)**or**[**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/VDWCommission/posts/152913496306049?comment_id=153597289571003&notif_id=1592372926409348&notif_t=feed_comment&ref=notif)**.**

# News article (150 words)

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**Victorian** **disability worker registration** is now open, ensuring people with disability have access to support workers they can trust.

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To find out more about registered workers, visit [www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration](http://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration)

Follow the Victorian Disability Worker Commission [tag the Commission: facebook.com/VDWCommission] to stay informed.

**Victorian disability worker registration** is now open, ensuring people with disability have access to support workers they can trust.

By choosing a registered worker, people with a disability are showing their commitment to raising the standards of the sector. They can be confident in knowing that the person they choose to work beside them and with them, has been independently assessed as qualified for the role.

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Follow @VDWCommission

**Victorian disability worker registration** is now open. Choosing a registered worker shows a commitment to raising the standards of the sector. Learn more at [www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration](http://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration)

Follow @VDWCommission

# Contacts

**Website:** [www.vdwc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au)

**Registration information:** [www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration](http://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/registration)

**Email:** [info@vdwc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@vdwc.vic.gov.au)

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