

2024-25 Compliance and Enforcement Policy and Priorities

Purpose: to provide an overview of Blue Card Services' approach to blue card system compliance and enforcement

ABOUT BLUE CARD SERVICES COMPLIANCE

Blue Card Services administers the blue card system (working with children check) in Queensland. The blue card system is governed by the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*.

Blue Card Services Compliance team monitors and audits compliance with the blue card system. Where serious compliance issues are found, the team works closely with the Queensland Police Service (the QPS) and other regulatory partners to address non-compliance.

We help to achieve DJAG's vision: *Justice for all through safe, fair and responsible communities by supporting the delivery of a responsive regulatory service.*

We protect and promote the safety and wellbeing of children in regulated service environments by educating our stakeholders about their legislative obligations and taking enforcement action where necessary.

OBJECTIVES

Working within the legislation, Blue Card Services Compliance team seeks to achieve compliance within regulated organisations by:

- focusing on prevention and early intervention through education
- correcting administrative breaches to make sure the blue card system is being applied correctly
- ensuring ongoing compliance with the law, and preventing future offending and unsafe conduct.

APPROACH

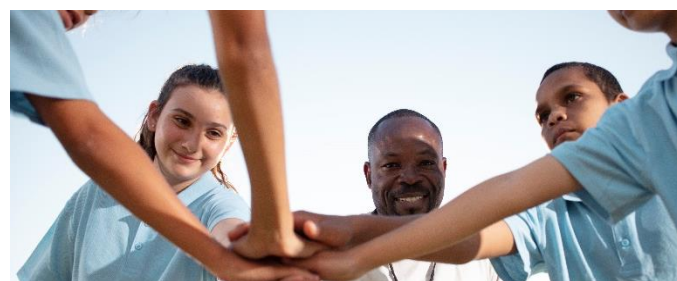
Blue Card Services uses a range of strategies to achieve compliance and create safer environments for children and young people in Queensland.



Our compliance approach involves working with child-related organisations to build capacity and undertake continuous improvement. We undertake both targeted and organisation-wide audits where potential non-compliance is identified to ensure risks to children are identified and addressed.

Where an educative approach is not appropriate, potential breaches of the legislation are referred to the QPS for investigation and possible prosecution.

OVERALL APPROACH



WHAT WE DO

Capacity building and continuous improvement

- Provide resources and guidance to help organisations be child-safe
- Focus on prevention and intervention through early education
- Promote understanding of obligations and the importance of compliance

Monitor compliance

- Audits of regulated organisations
- Conduct investigations of high risk individuals to ensure compliance with the blue card system
- Identify trends to audit and educate

Enforce

- Refer breaches of the blue card system to the QPS and other regulatory partners

2024-25 PRIORITIES



Reduce misuse of blue card screening

Focused engagement with peak bodies and large employers to help identify areas of misuse of blue card screening where not legislatively required, and addressing risks through tailored risk management policies and practices



Support First Nations applicants and communities

Focused engagement with First Nations applicants, employers and communities to support compliance with blue card system requirements and reduce the impact of the misuse of blue card screening



Proactive industry education and compliance program

Targeted engagement and auditing of industries/organisations identified as medium to high risk, supported by monthly blue card system online education sessions tailored to the needs of identified industries.