

What is a regulated activity?



Anyone who works or volunteers with vulnerable people, including children, in a regulated activity must hold a Registration to Work with Vulnerable People (RWVP).



What is a vulnerable person?

A vulnerable person may be someone who has reduced capacity to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm or exploitation.

They might be using a service or taking part in an activity where they rely on others – such as carers, health professionals or support workers – to meet their needs. This could create a situation where a worker or volunteer has power over the vulnerable person to harm or exploit them.

Regulated activities capture these situations.



What is a regulated activity?

A regulated activity is an activity or service that involves working or volunteering with vulnerable people, including children.

Regulated activities focus on higher-risk activities where vulnerable people, including children, rely on others – such as carers, health professionals or support workers – to meet their needs; or they engage with workers or volunteers one-on-one.

This could create a situation where a worker or volunteer has power over the vulnerable person to harm or exploit them. Regulated activities capture these situations.



Sectors that provide a regulated activity or service

- Child education
- Child and youth services
- Disability services (delivered through the National Disability Insurance Scheme)
- Child transport
- Child care
- Religious activities for children
- Clubs and associations for children
- Child coaching and tutoring
- Child legal services
- Child-related commercial services.



How you engage in a regulated activity

It is also important to consider how you engage with vulnerable people, including children, as part of a regulated activity: that is, what kind of contact you have with them.

Contact is when you work or volunteer with vulnerable people, including children, and your interaction and communication with them are planned and a normal part of your day. This includes being with them in person, speaking with them on the phone or online, or emailing them.

Incidental contact is when you work or volunteer in the same setting as vulnerable people, including children, but you have little or no planned contact or communication with them: your interactions with them are unplanned and not a usual part of your working day.

For more information and examples, see our [Incidental contact fact sheet \(PDF, 269.4 KB\)](#).



What is changing?

Soon, the RWVP Scheme will apply to more regulated activities. This means that from 2026, workers and volunteers in more sectors and roles will need a RWVP.

The following activities will be regulated, and anyone who works or volunteers in these must hold a RWVP:

- health programs and services (including mental health). This will start with the public health system managed by the Department of Health
- any service or activity provided specifically, only or mainly to people with a disability and people under a guardianship (also known as represented persons)
- aged care services.

These changes will help strengthen the confidence we can all have that vulnerable people, including children, are safe from harm or exploitation when they are receiving care and support.



Stay up to date with these changes
by signing up for our e-newsletter at
justice.tas.gov.au/rwvp/subscribe

Current regulated activities

Chen plays the piano occasionally at his 6 year old son's dance school, accompanying the children as they learn from the dance teacher. Chen must have a RWVP because he is engaging in a child-related activity.

Sal is a volunteer coach at a cricket club. She is a parent, but her child does not play with the club. Sal must have a RWVP, because she is volunteering in a child-related regulated activity.

Suze is a face painter and works at children's birthday parties. The children's parents are usually present at the parties too. Suze requires a RWVP, as her services are a commercial party service being provided to children, and this is a regulated activity.

Jamila runs a child care centre. She is a host employer to Lena, a 17 year old trainee studying child care who interacts with the children at the centre. Both Jamila and Lena must hold a RWVP because they are providing child care services, and this is a regulated activity.

Muhammed is a taxi driver, working for one of the major taxi companies. Muhammed must hold a RWVP because he is working in a regulated activity.

Leo is a volunteer for an organisation that takes therapy and assistance dogs into places such as child care centres and children's wards at hospitals. Leo requires a RWVP because he will be engaging with children in a regulated activity.

Malik is a volunteer with adults who are NDIS participants. Malik's role as a volunteer support worker involves visiting them and keeping them company, taking them on walks and driving them to appointments. He is not paid. Malik must hold a RWVP because he is volunteering with NDIS participants and this is a regulated activity.

Not regulated activities

Elizabeth works as a journalist. She occasionally tutors her workmate's 12 year old son in English and writing if he needs help preparing for exams. Elizabeth does not otherwise work or volunteer in a child-related activity requiring a RWVP. Because this is an informal unpaid arrangement, Elizabeth does not need a RWVP.

Stacey is a parent who drives her daughter to soccer on the weekend. She sometimes gives her daughter's teammates lifts to the games. Stacey does not need a RWVP because this is a private arrangement and is not a service that is a regulated activity.

Patrick and his team of builders are working on an extension at a private school. Patrick and his team are not engaged in a child-related activity, so under the RWVP laws, they do not need to hold RWVPs.