

BoatSafe Information Bulletin - 027

Child Safe Organisation Act – working with children check

Purpose

This BoatSafe Information Bulletin (BIB) outlines the requirement for BoatSafe authority holders to provide evidence that they hold a valid working with children card (referred to as a Blue Card). As the department continues to strengthen its compliance with the *Child Safe Organisation Act*, this requirement is a key step in aligning BoatSafe with the Act's intended outcomes.

Requirements

Situation

The Boatsafe Business Rules and authority application process is amended by this BIB. It is now a requirement to provide evidence of a valid Blue Card for the application and for it to be maintained throughout the term of the BoatSafe authority. The activity of a BTO and BTP is included in the legislation as a *No card, No start work*.

BTOs are required to ensure they are operating in accordance with their responsibilities as prescribed in the Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Regulation 2020.

Time frame

BoatSafe Training Organisations (BTOs) and BoatSafe Training Providers (BTPs) have until **25 September 2025** to provide evidence they hold a current *Blue Card*.

If you believe you have a genuine reason to not have a valid *working with children check* completed and do not hold a *Blue Card*, you must advise the Boatsafe team in writing as soon as possible and before 25 September 2025.

(BoatSafe@msq.qld.gov.au)

All new authority applications must provide evidence of a current and valid *Blue Card* and new BoatSafe authorities will now include a condition that the holder is to report any changes to your *Blue Card* status and to maintain the *Blue Card* for the term of the authority.

Compliance

Authority holders are already required to have had a *working with children check* when delivering Boatsafe to people under 18 years of age. Not holding the required card or other accepted evidence will result in the BoatSafe team reporting the non-compliance to the Department of Justice for their investigation and the BoatSafe team taking administrative action against the authority.

BTOs and BTPs identified as being noncompliant with this BIB may have administrative action taken that may result in the suspension or cancellation of their authority. This may be considered as a critical or major noncompliance in line with the Boatsafe compliance policy.

How to provide evidence?

Email a copy of the Blue Card (front side only) to the BoatSafe team's email address. boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au by **25 September 2025**

Note: If you sent a copy of your *Blue Card* to the BoatSafe team when renewing your last authority, you are still required to provide a copy of your *Blue Card* by 25 September 2025.

Repeal

BIB 017 Requirement to hold a Blue Card, is repealed by this notice.

Further Information

For further information contact the BoatSafe Team – boatsafe@msq.qld.gov.au