



Update from the Commissioner

Welcome to our August newsletter.

If disability worker registration is something you've been thinking about, now is the perfect time to get your application in. We're encouraging even more disability workers to register and show they have the right skills to deliver quality services.

Registration recognises you for the crucial work you do as a disability worker. The good news is that registration continues to be free in this second year and your skills, experience and track record are all taken into account. You can find out how to register on our [registration page](#).

Join us for our disability worker registration webinar

We will be hosting a webinar – Disability worker registration – who, why, when and how? On Thursday 18th August at 10am. If you've been thinking about becoming a registered disability worker, the webinar is a great opportunity to hear about how registration can work for you. Book your tickets now via [our booking page](#) or read more in Events section of this newsletter.

Renewals open soon!

For those already registered, your chance to renew your registration for the 2022-23 year opens on Monday 15th August. You can read more about how to prepare your renewal application on our [renewal page](#). We will be in touch with all registered workers via email to provide you with the steps to renew. If you're a registered worker and need to update your email address, please get in touch.

You might have had the chance to see or hear our new campaign featuring Victorians with disability and disability workers talking about disability worker registration. The campaign launched in July, across radio, newspapers and social media. We encourage you to help

us to get the word out by liking and sharing our posts across [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

We celebrated NAIDOC week in July with the launch of culturally meaningful artwork, which Aboriginal artist, Gary Saunders, has developed for the Commission. If you missed it, you can see and read about the story of the artwork and artist via [our news page](#).

If you have any concerns about a disability worker, our team is here to listen, help and guide you as we understand it can be difficult to take the step of contacting us on 1800 497 132. You can also make a complaint via our [online form](#).

Do you or your organisation want to know more about how to make a complaint, lodge a notification or register as a disability worker?

We can help with that. We provide free, accessible, and tailored education sessions for your organisation, community group, advocacy group or network about any aspects of the Commission's work. If you're interested, please get in touch with our education team at education@vdbc.vic.gov.au.

Please let friends and colleagues know that they can subscribe to receive updates at www.vdbc.vic.gov.au/subscribe.

Events



Disability worker registration – who, why, when, and how? webinar

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission is hosting a webinar on everything you need to know about disability worker registration.

Date: Thursday 18th August

Time: 10-11am

Book now: [Disability worker registration - Who, why, when and how? Tickets, Thu 18/08/2022 at 10:00 am | Eventbrite](#)

The webinar will feature an update on registration standards and the application process. There will also be a presentation from a registered disability worker, explaining why being registered is important to them.

Disability worker registration is a huge step forward in safety and quality for the Victorian disability sector and acknowledges disability workers for the crucial job they do. If you're interested in learning more about registration, don't miss this important webinar.

News and updates

Winter rules to keep Victorians COVID safe

The Victorian Government has confirmed the following COVID-19 restrictions with relation to those working in the community services sector. These include:

- Workers in care facilities **must** wear face masks while indoors. Including when interacting or not interacting with clients.
- Workers in client-facing roles **should** wear face masks.
- Workers **should** use tier 3 personal protective equipment if working with someone who is known or suspected to have COVID-19. Tier 3 personal protective equipment includes:
 - disposable gloves (do not wear vinyl gloves)
 - a disposable gown (plastic with long sleeves)
 - an N95 or P2 respirator (not a KN95 mask)
 - eye protection (with a face shield where practical).

Visitors to care facilities:

- **Must** confirm they took a rapid antigen test that day and had a negative result.
- **Should** wear an N95 respirator during their visit if they are over 18 years old.

Eligible people with disability in Victoria can get 20 free rapid antigen tests from a disability liaison officer each time they visit a state-run testing site. Eligible people include NDIS participants, disability support pensioners, and people with a disability who receive a TAC benefit.

More information can be found on the [Community Services Sector – COVID 19 website](#).

NDS Living with COVID-19: Information sharing and collaboration webinar series

NDS will host the free 'Living with COVID: Information sharing and collaboration series' webinar tomorrow, Friday 5 August at 12pm.

Attendees will hear from Local Public Health Units (LPHUs) about their role in responding to outbreaks in disability settings. This is a great opportunity to hear from LPHUs to better understand the new outbreak response operating model.

Registrations are essential through this link: [Living with COVID-19: Information sharing and collaboration series \(nds.org.au\)](#)

Senior leaders in disability services are encouraged to attend.

NDIS Workforce Capability Framework tools now available

The NDIS has released 5 tools, designed to support the disability sector use the NDIS Workforce Capability Framework (<https://workforcecapability.ndiscommission.gov.au>), released late last year.

The Victorian Disability Worker Commission is dedicated to supporting disability workers improve their capabilities to better support people with disability and have more satisfaction in their work. We encourage using these tools to identify capabilities of interest and those that can be improved.

Each tool has a different focus and purpose, for instance the self-assessment tool is for potential workers assisting them make an informed choice about becoming a disability worker. The career options guide is for existing workers providing guidance and links on

different aspects of the important work done when supporting people with disability.

The following tools are now available for your use:

- [Self-assessment Tool \(for Potential Workers\)](#)
- [Position Description Builder \(PD Builder\)](#)
- [Recruitment and Selection Guide](#)
- [Career Options Guide](#)
- [Workforce Management and Planning Tool](#)

The NDIS Workforce Capability Framework and these tools are new, using these and providing feedback will help improve the tools and resources going forward.

Please provide your [feedback](#) directly to the project team by filling out the forms provided for the Framework itself and each of the tools.



The Commissioner for Senior Victorians' new state-wide survey for older Victorians is now open

This year's survey invites senior Victorians to have their say on a range of issues including wellbeing, ageism, digital inclusion, social connectedness, health and self-care.

Participants can also share their experience of the pandemic and the support they need to re-connect and participate in the community.

The findings of the survey will inform the Commissioner's ongoing advocacy on behalf of older Victorians, including advice to the Victorian Government, and the implementation of the Victorian Government's recently launched Ageing Well Action Plan (2022-2026).

A range of resources are available at: www.seniorsonline.vic.gov.au/survey

Keep in touch

If our e-newsletter was forwarded to you and you'd like to subscribe please go to: <https://www.vdwc.vic.gov.au/subscribe>

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch via our website [Contact us](#) page, send an email to info@vdwc.vic.gov.au or call us on 1800 497 132.

For more information visit vdwc.vic.gov.au

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