

Blue Card System – Information Sheet

Home stay providers

This information sheet provides information about when a blue card is required when people participate in home stay arrangements.

When do I need a blue card?

A person who provides accommodation for a child in their home as part of a home stay arrangement which is organised through a school or organisation is required to hold a blue card.

Each adult residing in the home in which the home stay is conducted is also required to hold a volunteer blue card.

When is a blue card not required?

Relative

If the home stay provider or adult residing in the home is a relative of the child who receives the home stay service, a blue card is not required.

Frequency

If the arrangement is organised by a school or a recognised body, and the home stay provider provides the home stay as a volunteer and not more than twice in the same year and for a period that, or for periods that are each, 10 days or less, a blue card is not required.

Adult international students

If adult international students are temporarily staying in a home stay residence, a blue card is not required.

How do I apply for a blue card?

People requiring a card should lodge a *Blue card application (BC)* form.

A representative from the school or organisation should check relevant identifying documents before lodging the application with Blue Card Services.

What if I already have a blue card?

If you already hold a blue card, you can use your existing card. However, the school or organisation must notify Blue Card Services by submitting a *Link an applicant/cardholder to this organisation* form.

Upon lodgement of this form, Blue Card Services will update its records and the school or organisation will then receive important updates about certain blue card matters.

Do visiting groups or teachers from overseas need blue cards?

Blue card requirements depend on the nature of the activities being conducted.

For example, if an overseas teacher accompanies a study group and does not provide any other services or activities to children in Queensland, a blue card is not required. However, if the same teacher taught a language class at a school, a blue card may be required.

What if the home stay provider lives more than 50km from the school organising the home stay?

If the home stay provider resides more than 50km from the school organising the home stay, a prescribed person (rather than the school) may sign off the applicant's identification documents by completing the *Confirmation of identity* form.

A prescribed person is a Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Declarations, Police Officer or Lawyer.