



Changes make it easier for new foster carers

23 April 2020

Changes approved by the NSW Government will make it possible for new foster carers to apply for their Working With Children Check without the need to go to a Service NSW centre.

In recognition that some new carers who are self-isolating or minimising travel and contact with others may be unable to attend a Service NSW centre to provide proof of identity, regulations have been temporarily amended to provide greater flexibility.

This part of the Office of the Children's Guardian continuing efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

From 22 April, authorised carers and adult members of carers' households will have the option of providing certified copies of their

proof of identity documents to their foster care agency as part of the application process, instead of attending a Service NSW Centre in person.

This includes carers' children turning 18 years, as well as young people in statutory out-of-home care who continue living in their carers' home after turning 18.

The Principal Officer of the foster care agency will then forward the person's proof of identity documents to the Children's Guardian.

The change to the Regulation began on 22 April 2020 and will be in place for six months, ending on 22 October.

[More information for authorised carers](#)