

Criminal history: What you must declare for registration

Before we can register you, we need to determine whether you are suitably trained, qualified and meet the requirements for registration as a health practitioner. This includes whether you have any criminal history either in Australia or in some cases overseas.

When considering if your criminal history will affect your registration, the National Board will look at the facts and circumstances, what steps you have taken to address that conduct, and how it may affect your good standing as a member of the profession.

We do an Australian criminal history check on every applicant for registration so it's important that you tell us if you have something to report. If you don't, it will delay assessment of your application.

Australian criminal history check

In your application you must tell us about your criminal history. An Australian criminal history check will also be completed by us as part of your application – the cost is covered in your application fee.

You need to supply a complete criminal history with your application irrespective of the time that has lapsed since the charge was laid or the finding of guilt was made. This is because under the National Law, spent convictions legislation does not apply to criminal history disclosure requirements. Your application will be significantly delayed if you do not declare your criminal history in your application and a criminal history is found during the screening process.

International criminal history check

If you declare a criminal history outside Australia or you've lived overseas as an adult for more than six consecutive months you will need to request and pay for an international criminal history check through an AHPRA-approved supplier.

The results will be passed to us directly.

More information, including the list of AHPRA-approved suppliers, is available on our International criminal history checks page at www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Process/Criminal-history-checks/International-Criminal-History.

What type of criminal history do I have to tell you about?

Criminal history includes:

- every charge made against the person for an offence
- every plea of guilty or finding of guilt by a court for an offence, whether or not a conviction is recorded for the offence, and
- every conviction of a person for an offence.

There are different requirements in different states and territories.

You must let us know if:

- *you're in Western Australia and you've been convicted for unpaid parking fines*
- *you're in Queensland and pleaded guilty to an offence charge and the outcome was guilty without conviction*
- *you're in Tasmania and you've received a speeding or parking fine*

If you were convicted of an offence more than ten years ago you must tell us about the offence. This is because spent convictions legislation does not apply to criminal history disclosure requirements.

What do I have to do next?

If you have a criminal history that you need to tell us about, answer yes in response to the question 'do you have a criminal history in Australia' and provide details of the conduct, eg. in 2007, I was caught shoplifting.

Upload a statement regarding the facts and circumstances and what steps you have taken to address that conduct so that it does not affect your good standing as a member of the profession.