

	<p>Scouts Australia NSW  <b>LEADER NEWS - ON THE WEB</b>  <b>December 2010</b></p>	<p>PO Box 125  Lidcombe    Phone: 97359000  Fx: 97359001</p>
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**Significant changes to the  
CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES**  
*Effective immediately*

Over the past few years there has been an ongoing lobbying for changes to the Children's Commission Act's. We have now been advised this has been partially successful and there are changes to their requirements. The new procedures need to be implemented as soon as reasonably possible, and definitely before Groups resume next year.

The changes that effect Regions and Groups are as follows.

- A. **There is no longer any need for those UNDER 18 years of age to sign a 'Prohibited Employment Declaration' (PED) or the new 'Volunteer/Student Declaration'.**
- B. **Replacement of the 'Prohibited Employment Declaration' (PED) with the new 'Volunteer/Student Declaration' (copy attached).**
- C. **Leaders in some high risk roles must have a Federal police check.** These are Leaders who mentor disadvantaged children or provide intimate personal care for disabled children who must use the 'Applicant Declaration and Consent' and not the 'Volunteer/Student Declaration.'

**What does this mean?**

1. In the past where you used the PED you now must use the **'Volunteer/Student Declaration'**
2. The high risk roles that demand a Federal police check are:
  - I. Those volunteers who mentor disadvantaged children **in family-like relationships.**
  - or**
  - II. Those volunteers who provide intimate personal care for disabled children such as **bathing or toileting.**
3. Copies of this high risk declaration 'Applicant Declaration and Consent' will be available on the Children Commission web at: <https://check.kids.nsw.gov.au/background-check-consent.php>.)
4. Those who have already filed PEDs with the Group/Region or Association **DO NOT** need to fill in a new declaration, unless they transfer and become involved with disadvantaged children or provide intimate personal care for disabled children.
5. The filing and storing of the 'Volunteer/Student Declaration' remains the same as with the PED **BUT** the 'Applicant Declaration and Consent' forms need to be sent to the State Office for lodging, by the office, with the Commission for a Federal Police check
6. Those procedures and actions already in play for the period to January 3<sup>1st</sup> can continue to be used, if you so desire.
7. Remember the form is an official Government form and we **CANNOT** make changes except to put our banner above the form.
8. Further copies of the declaration 'Volunteer/Student Declaration will be available on the Scout web site <http://www.nsw.scouts.com.au/leaders/ScoutsSectionContent.aspx?Id=429>. as form M5, dated on or after December 6.

**A NEW LEADER SUPPORT GUIDE 26.**

LSG 26 is in the process of being updated, to reflect the new changes, and will be available within the next few weeks. The current working title is:

WORKING WITH THE 'VOLUNTEER/STUDENT DECLARATION' INFORMATION  
The replacement for the 'Prohibited Employment Declaration' (PED).