



Important Message To All New South Wales Practitioners

The NSW Commission for Children and Young People Requires a Certificate for Self Employed People in Child-Related Employment by 1 May 2010

The *Commission for Children and Young People Regulation 2009* requires all self employed people in child-related employment to get a certificate from the Commission to demonstrate they are not prohibited from working with children.

This means that all NSW practitioners, regardless of which practice/s they are accredited in, will need to obtain a Certificate for Self Employed People if they:

- are self employed, and
- work in a healthcare clinical setting, and
- have direct unsupervised contact with children (under 18), even if it is on an occasional basis, and
- are over 18 years of age.

The Certificate is not required by practitioners who will never have direct unsupervised contact with children.

Fines of up to \$2,200 will apply from 1 May 2010 if a self employed practitioner:

- works with children in NSW and does not have a valid Certificate for Self Employed People in Child-Related Employment
- fails to prominently display their Certificate if they practise from a fixed place of work
- fails to produce their Certificate when requested either by the person engaging them or by an authorised officer (eg a police officer)
- fails to surrender their Certificate to the Commission if they are convicted of an offence that prohibits them from working with children.

The Certificate for Self Employed People in Child-Related Employment costs \$80, and has to be lodged at a police station. The Certificate lasts for 3 years from the date of issue. Information on the application process is found at the Commission's website:

<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au>