



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.

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>