How Long Is A Police Check Valid For in Australia?

Check Types · https://workerchecks.com/es/docs/validez-de-un-control-policial/

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A **Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check (NCCHC)** — commonly referred to as a **National Police Check** — does **not have a set expiry date** in Australia.
It is considered a **“point-in-time” record**, meaning the results are accurate only **on the day the check is issued**.

How Long You Can Access Your Police Check

Once your check is complete, you’ll have access to your results in your **Worker Checks portal for 3 months**.
During this period, you can **view**, **download**, **print**, or **securely share** your police check certificate.

After 3 months, the certificate will **no longer be available online** for security and compliance reasons.

> **Important:**
> There is no fixed validity period for a police check. However, most employers, licensing bodies, and government agencies require a **new check every 6–12 months**, depending on their internal risk or compliance policies.

ACIC Rules and Compliance

In accordance with the **Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC)**:

> “Accredited bodies such as Worker Checks must not provide to the applicant or any third party a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check after **three months** have passed since it was issued by the ACIC — except where required by law, or with prior written consent from the ACIC.”

This ensures that all distributed checks remain compliant with **federal data-protection and privacy laws**.

Understanding Police Check Validity vs. Access

Aspect	Meaning
Validity	Your police check reflects your criminal record status **at the exact date and time of issue**. It may become outdated if offences occur after that date.
Access period	You can access, view, and share your certificate for **3 months** in your Worker Checks portal.
Re-check requirement	Organisations may request an updated check at any time, particularly when renewing employment, licensing, or accreditation.

Why Police Checks Are “Point in Time”

Because criminal history information can change, police checks cannot be “ongoing.”
A new offence recorded after your certificate is issued will **not appear** on your previous check.
That’s why many employers or regulatory bodies require **periodic re-checks** to maintain compliance.

Related Articles

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Still Need Help?

Chat

We’re happy to assist you in understanding your results and next steps.