



WOOR-DUNGIN

A New Partnership between Aboriginal Organisations and Philanthropy

Joining government boards when you have a criminal record

What is a criminal record?

Victoria Police keeps a record of any crimes you have been found guilty of, and any ongoing investigations against you by the police. They can also check records kept by other states and territories.

What is a government board or committee?

In Victoria there are many types of government boards and committees. These include groups that:

- run **government services** such as hospitals
- **advise government** on policy issues
- play a role in holding public officials to account or managing public land.

Will they ask about my criminal record?

Yes. If you would like to join a government board, you will be asked:

- if you have ever been found guilty of a crime.
- if you are currently being taken to court, or if you expect to be taken to court in the next year.

The department that manages the board will also do a police check.

Will having a criminal record stop me from joining a government board or committee?

There is no law to stop you from becoming a member of a government board or committee if you have a criminal record.

The government department that manages the board will take your criminal record into account when they decide if they will appoint you or not.

Are Koori Court Elders and Respected Persons board members?

No. They are employed by Court Services Victoria as casual employees.



For more information, contact:

Get on Board

www.getonboard.vic.gov.au
1300 366 356

Justice Connect Referral Service

www.justiceconnect.org.au/get-help/referral-service/how-can-we-help-you
(03) 8636 4400

Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service

www.vals.org.au
1800 064 865 (toll free)

Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation

(General information on government boards – not just health-related)
www.vaccho.org.au
(03) 9411 9411

Federation of Community Legal Centres

www.fclc.org.au
(03) 9652 1500

Eastern Community Legal Centre

www.eclc.org.au
5962 1665

This fact sheet is for people in Victoria, Australia. It is for information only and is not legal advice. Accuracy or completeness cannot be guaranteed. If you need advice, please contact a lawyer. February 2017.

Funded by
a grant from

**Victoria Law
Foundation**

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Making Two Worlds Work project.