

CALL 000



Child protection in your state or territory

In case of emergency or if someone is at imminent risk of harm, call 000 and ask for Police.

Job seekers may be eligible for jobactive from the age of 15. In some states and territories, this means that working for jobactive may involve working with children. This may mean that you are a mandatory reporter/notifier and that you **must** make a report to the child protection authority in your state or territory if you suspect that a child (whether or not they are your client) may be at risk of harm. A summary of what is reportable and whether a jobactive staff member is a mandatory reporter/notifier in each state and territory appears below.

Staff of employment services providers delivering programs other than jobactive should check the relevant guidelines, contractual obligations and legislation, speak to your manager or contact the Department of Employment to determine what you are required to do.

In all states and territories, you **may** make a report of suspect risk of harm to a child even if you are not a mandatory reporter or you are concerned about a type of harm that it is not mandatory to report. It is always better to over-report than under-report if you are unsure. You do not need to investigate the suspected harm or prove that it has actually happened in order to report.

CHILD PROTECTION FOR JOBACTIVE PROVIDERS

STATE AND TERRITORY REPORTING DETAILS10

JURISDICTION	ARE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE WORKERS MANDATORY REPORTERS?	REPORTABLE TYPES OF HARM	CONTACT
ACT	Yes	Physical abuse; sexual abuse	1300 556 729 Or <u>online</u>
NSW	Yes	Physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional/psychological abuse; neglect; exposure to domestic violence	13 32 67 Or <u>online</u>
NT	Yes. All adults in NT are mandatory reporters.	Physical abuse; sexual abuse or exploitation; emotional/psychological abuse; neglect; exposure to physical violence	1800 700 250 Or Police: 131 444
QLD	No	Physical abuse; sexual abuse	1800 177 135 Or <u>online</u>
SA	Yes	Physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional/psychological abuse; neglect	13 14 78 Or <u>online</u>
TAS	Yes	Physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional/psychological abuse; neglect; exposure to family violence	1300 737 639 (preferred) Or online
VIC	Yes. All adults in Victoria are mandatory reporters of sexual offences only.	Sexual offence	Police: 000
VIC	No. You are not mandated to report any other types of abuse in Victoria.	Physical abuse; sexual abuse	Business hours: Regional Intake After hours: 131 278
WA	No	Physical abuse; sexual abuse; emotional/psychological abuse; neglect	Business Hours: DCP District Offices

¹⁰ These details are correct as at date of publication. Providers should check the currency of the information for their jurisdiction.

BEST PRACTICE



Whenever safe to do so, it is best practice to **tell your client** when you are going to make a domestic violence report about them. You should do this unless you have genuine concerns that telling your client will put them or their family at increased risk of harm, for example, if the abuser is likely to react violently to hearing that a report has been made. The tip sheet on WHAT TO SAY can give some guidance as to how to have this conversation with your client. If a conversation like this is difficult for you, ask your manager for support. Always ensure you seek debriefing afterwards.

Whether you tell them or not, you should still make a report if you believe that someone is at immediate risk or if you are a mandatory reporter in this circumstance.

In all states and territories, your identity as a reporter is protected by law. If you are concerned about the impact that reporting may have on your own safety, discuss your concerns with you manager as soon as possible.