



Ethnic Communities Council
of Western Australia Inc.

E-NEWSLETTER

August 2022



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SCAM WATCH



Covid Scam

Text message scam for free COVID-19 Test Kit

If you get a message from the Australian Government offering a free COVID-19 test kit, don't open the link.

A scam has been operating where individuals receive a text message that states:

'You have been in recent contact with a person who is positive for COVID-19. Please order a free test kit via [uses malicious link].'

This link will take you to a fake Australian Government or Medicare site designed to steal your personal information and bank account details.

We would like to remind everyone to:

not click on any links within text messages

contact the Scams and Identity Theft Helpdesk on 1800 941 126 if you have opened a link or input any personal information on these sites.

SCAM WATCH



2022 tax lodgment email scam

We're seeing an increase in email, phone and sms "phishing" scams claiming to be from the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

These scams tell people their '2022 tax lodgment' has been received. The email asks them to open an attachment to sign a document and complete their 'to do list details'.

Opening the attachment takes you to a fake Microsoft login page designed to steal your login details. Entering your password could give the scammer access to your Microsoft account, allowing them to reset your passwords for other accounts like banking and online shopping.

If you get an email like this, **don't click on any links or open any attachments.** Forward the email to ReportEmailFraud@ato.gov.au and then delete it
or call 1800 008 540

The real ATO will never send you an email or SMS with a link to log in to online services

Changes to travel restrictions from 6 July 2022

From 6 July 2022, the way you travel to and from Australia is changing.

All travellers need to be aware that:

- People entering Australia do not need to provide evidence of vaccination status**
- People entering Australia do not need to complete the Digital Passenger Declaration or Maritime Travel Declaration**
- People leaving Australia will not be asked to provide evidence of their vaccination status**
- Unvaccinated visa holders do not need a travel exemption to travel to Australia**

Masks are still required for international flights to Australia.

It is important to remember that airlines, vessel operators and other countries may have specific requirements that travellers need to comply with.

To view the latest updates to Australia's immigration and border arrangements during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit the dedicated webpage on the Home Affairs website.

MyAus App

Have you heard of the MyAus app?

MyAus app is a free multilingual app to empower migrants and refugees in their settlement journey. It is designed by the Migration Council of Australia.

It offers information about systems and services available in Australia, including health, legal, education, and employment.

The app is available in Arabic, Urdu, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Hazaragi, Pashto, Dari, Ukrainian, Hindi, Turkish and English.
(More languages to come soon)

You can use the MyAus App to:

- Read information in multiple-languages
- Use simple search to find important information about planning your trip to Australia, or settling here.
- Find important contacts for support.
- View animated videos on multiple subjects in-language.
- Use check lists and bookmarks to keep track of your experiences.
- Information includes services in Australia such as:
 - Health
 - Education
 - Legal
 - Employment
 - Social Security
 - Staying Safe
 - Rules and Regulations
 - Information about finding accommodation and;
 - Numerous other topics.

Services Australia: Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Advisers

A new Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Adviser line will be available to non-parent carers through Services Australia from 1 July 2022.

The Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer Advisers help all non-parent carers who provide ongoing care for children, even if they are not currently getting a payment or service from Services Australia.

These specialist officers can provide tailored information about appropriate payments and services, along with referrals to other government and community support. They can also arrange appointments with other agency specialist staff such as social workers. Interpreter assistance is available upon request for free when calling the line on **1800 245 965** Monday to Friday 8.30am -4.30pm.

There will be a Grandparent, Foster and Kinship Carer factsheet available from 1 July 2022, on the Services Australia website in 10 languages.

For more information about assistance available for grandparent, foster and kinship carers, go to Grandparent carers or Non-parent carers on the Services Australia website or call the number listed above.