Frequently Asked Questions About ASIC Cards by Neil

Article published on June 22nd 2012 | Business

Most jobs in Australia that require access to secure areas in airports require the use of ASIC cards. ASIC cards were developed to ensure that only those who are supposed to enter secure areas are able to do so. If you've recently started a new job and you've been told that you need to apply for an ASIC card, you are likely to have a number of questions. Here are the answers to those most frequently asked.

What is an ASIC card?

An ASIC card is simply a means of identifying those that have passed a background check. ASIC cards are used to ensure that only those whose backgrounds have been checked are granted access to secure areas inside an airport. They have been developed to prevent those with unlawful intentions gaining access to said areas.

Why do I Need an ASIC card?

If your employer has requested that you apply for an ASIC card, you must currently have an operational need for one. People with operational needs for an ASIC card primarily fit into one of the following two categories.

. Those who require access to secure areas to perform aspects of their job such as those involved in the operation of an aircraft and those that make deliveries to aircrafts such as couriers and suppliers.

. Those who don't necessarily require access to secure areas but who work in close proximity to such areas such as baggage handlers and airport security guards.

What Happens When I Apply for an ASIC card?

In most cases the application process for an ASIC card is very straightforward. Upon receiving your application the awarding body will verify both your identity and the fact that you do actually need an ASIC card for your job. A background check will then be performed to ensure that you are both a legal Australian resident and that you have not committed any serious crimes in the past.

What if I Have a Criminal Record?

A criminal record does not automatically mean that you are not eligible to obtain an ASIC card. In cases involving minor crime, eligibility is still very much possible. On the other hand, any form of crime that is considered relevant to aviation security would lead to immediate disqualification.

Do I Have to Carry my ASIC card Every Time I go to Work?

If you will need to enter a secure area during the course of your work day, you are not only obligated to carry your ASIC card with you, you are also required to keep it visible at all times. Your ASIC card must be attached to your person above the waist, at your front or side and with your photo clearly visible. If you fail to meet any of these requirements while inside a secure area, you could face a hefty fine. It is also worth noting that many people have received such fines even though they actually had their ASIC card in their pocket.

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Article Keywords:
ASIC card application, ASIC Card

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