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ASIC changes for Adelaide and Canberra Airports

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Last updated 9 July 2026

What has changed?

From 1 July 2026, AusCheck ceased to be the issuing body for new and renewed Aviation Security Identification Cards (ASICs) for non-government staff at Adelaide and Canberra Airports. This means AusCheck will no longer accept ASIC applications or issue ASICs for non-government staff at Adelaide and Canberra Airports. Staff must apply through a different issuing body.

When did this change take place?

This change took effect on 1 July 2026.

Who is affected?

All non-government staff at Adelaide and Canberra Airports.

Why has this changed?

On 12 May 2026, as part of the Federal Budget, the government announced it would cease implementation of the Single Issuing Body. This means that AusCheck is no longer an issuing body for non-government organisations at Adelaide and Canberra Airports.

Do I still need an ASIC?

All staff still require an ASIC to access secure areas at Adelaide and Canberra Airports.

Where can I find more information?

For more information or assistance, please email auscheck@homeaffairs.gov.au or visit the [AusCheck website](https://www.auscheck.gov.au/portal/asicchange) [https://www.auscheck.gov.au/portal/asicchange].

How do I apply for an ASIC now?

New or renewed ASICs must be applied for through an alternative issuing body. Check with your employer about which issuing body they are now using. You can find the full list of issuing bodies on the [AusCheck website](https://www.auscheck.gov.au/about/issuing-bodies/asic) [https://www.auscheck.gov.au/about/issuing-bodies/asic].

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What if I have already started an application with AusCheck?

If you applied for your new or renewal ASIC before 1 July 2026, AusCheck will continue to process your application.

What if I hold a current ASIC that was issued by AusCheck?

Adelaide and Canberra Airport staff can continue to use their current AusCheck-issued ASIC for the full duration of its validity until it expires, or until the cardholder no longer has an operational need for the ASIC and returns it to AusCheck.

What if I need a replacement card?

Replacement cards for your AusCheck-issued ASIC can continue to be requested at any time during the life of the card through the [AusCheck applicant portal](https://sicportal.auscheck.gov.au/) [https://sicportal.auscheck.gov.au/].

What if I need to change my name or update my visa expiry date?

Changes to a card name or updated visa expiry date require an in-person appointment (booked through the AusCheck Service Centre) to visit AusCheck at:

- 70 Franklin Street, Adelaide or
- 3 Molonglo Drive, Canberra Airport.

You will need to provide identity document(s) in person to facilitate a name change replacement card request or a new ASIC based on updated visa expiry.

A subsequent appointment would also be required for collection/issuance of the replacement card and return of your previous card for destruction.

Will AusCheck still be conducting background checks?

AusCheck is the Australian Government's background checking service and provides background checks for different AusCheck schemes, including the Aviation Security Identification Card (ASIC) and Maritime Security Identification Card (MSIC) schemes.

AusCheck will continue as the ASIC/MSIC issuing body for government staff.

Will the cost of applying for an ASIC change?

ASIC fees vary between providers. There will likely be an increase in the cost of an ASIC from issuing bodies after 1 July 2026, as the cost of a background check increased.

What if my ASIC is due for renewal?

From 1 July 2026, new or renewed ASICs for non-government staff must be applied for through an alternative issuing body. Check with your employer about which issuing body they are now using. You can find the full list of issuing bodies on the [AusCheck website](https://www.auscheck.gov.au/about/issuing-bodies/asic) [https://www.auscheck.gov.au/about/issuing-bodies/asic].

How do I return an AusCheck card after 1 July 2026?

ASIC holders are required to return their card to AusCheck within one (1) month after:

- it expires,
- they have been advised that the card has been cancelled, or

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- they no longer have an operational need for the card.

When you no longer require your AusCheck-issued ASIC or it expires, you **must** return it to AusCheck (penalties may apply for failure to return). ASICs can be returned via the following methods.

In-person:

- **At ASIC collection:** If an applicant has applied for a replacement ASIC, the old ASIC must be returned in-person when collecting their new (replacement) ASIC.
- **At airport drop-box:**
 - **Canberra Airport** staff or workers can return ASICs to the Canberra Airport reception (8.30am-5.00pm Mon-Fri).
 - **Adelaide Airport** staff or workers can return ASICs to the Pass Issue Office (8.00am-4.00pm Mon-Fri).

By post: Cardholders can mail their ASIC to AusCheck at PO Box 25, Belconnen ACT 2616.