



NSW Police Force

Changes to Master Licence Application Requirements

FACT SHEET 4

This Fact Sheet provides information on changes to Master licence application requirements and the impact of those changes on current licensees.

The new Security Industry Regulation 2007 identifies three distinct Master licence applicant types and details the application requirements for each type.

Who can apply for a Master licence?

The Security Industry Regulation 2007 provides for Master licence applications to be made by:

- individuals
- corporations
- government agencies (including public authorities).

Other entity types such as trusts, associations and partnerships are not able to apply for Master licences. If a business operates as a partnership, the application for a Master licence must be made by one of the partners, with the others declared as close associates.

A Master licence may authorise the carrying on of security activities under any number of business names, provided those names are registered in New South Wales to the Master licensee.

Will individuals still hold Master licences on behalf of corporations and government agencies?

From 1 September 2007, Master licences will no longer be issued exclusively to individuals. Corporations and government agencies will now be able to hold Master licences in their own right and this will be reflected in a new style Master licence certificate.

Has there been any change to Master licence subclasses?

Master licence subclasses will continue to reflect the number of Class 1 and/or Class 2 licensees (and now also Provisional licensees) that may be employed under the authority of the licence. However, for ease of reference, the amended Security Industry Act 1997 provides for new subclass labels.

- Subclass **MA** authorises the licensee (who is self-employed and who holds a Class 1 and/or Class 2 licence) to provide their own services to carry on security activities.

Note: This subclass is not available to corporation or government agency applicants.

- Subclass **MB** authorises the licensee to employ or provide no more than ten Provisional, Class 1 and/or Class 2 licensees to carry on security activities.
- Subclass **MC** authorises the licensee to employ or provide between eleven and fifty Provisional, Class 1 and/or Class 2 licensees to carry on security activities.
- Subclass **MD** authorises the licensee to employ or provide more than fifty Provisional, Class 1 and/or Class 2 licensees to carry on security activities.

What are the major changes to Master licence application requirements?

Clause 13 of the Security Industry Regulation 2007 details the information that must be included in an application for a Master licence by each of the three applicant types. The most notable changes are:

- All applicants are required to provide an Australian Business Number (ABN), irrespective of whether they require an ABN for GST purposes.
- Applicants holding firearms licences in relation to security activities must provide those licence particulars and the particulars of each relevant employee.
- Government agencies do not require membership of an approved security industry association.
- Government agencies are not considered to have close associates for licensing purposes.
- Corporations and government agencies must nominate an individual, as the primary contact person for the licence, who is:
 - an Australian citizen or permanent Australian resident



- in the case of a corporation
 - a close associate of the corporation
- involved in the day-to-day conduct of the corporation's or agency's security activities.

What impact will these changes have on current Master licences?

The changes outlined in this Fact Sheet will not generally affect current Master licences until the licence expires and an application is made for a new licence.

Many corporations and government agencies may choose, however, to immediately apply for a replacement Master licence that recognises the corporation or agency as the licensee, rather than wait until the licence expires.

Unless otherwise notified, the Security Industry Registry will consider individuals currently holding Master licences on behalf of corporations or government agencies to be the nominated contact person for the licence. If necessary, the details of a new nominated person must be provided in an application to amend the Master licence.

Corporations and government agencies seeking a replacement Master licence, whether by choice or because of the need to nominate a new contact person for the licence, must provide all the particulars that are required in an application for the grant of a licence (see Clause 13 of the Security Industry Regulation 2007). These details are necessary for the issue of a new style Master licence certificate. The replacement licence will retain the current licence number and expiry date.

Security Industry Registry

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Where can I find more information?

The information provided in this Fact Sheet is for general guidance only; it does not constitute legal advice. Applicants and licensees should familiarise themselves with the amended Security Industry Act 1997 and the Security Industry Regulation 2007, which are available on the NSW Legislation website (www.legislation.nsw.gov.au).



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www.police.nsw.gov.au