



## Overseas Police Clearance

If you have spent a cumulative period of 12 months or more, (i.e. when you add all the periods of time together, it amounts to 12 months or more) outside of the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland after the age of 18, you must submit a copy of your [national police clearance](#) (not state clearance) for each country where you lived.

These clearance certificates must cover the entire period of residence in each country. The clearance must be dated not more than six months prior to leaving the country or can be dated any time after you have left the country.

- Providing a clearance certificate is the responsibility of the applicant.
- You are advised to seek the clearance as early as possible as this process can take time.
- Your application for registration cannot be finalised until we receive your clearance.

### Northern Ireland

If you have lived in Northern Ireland, you do not need to provide police clearance. The National Vetting Bureau carries out checks on both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland checks.

### **Exceptional circumstances**

Applicants are responsible for obtaining national police clearance certificates and should make every effort to do so.

If a satisfactory police or criminal records disclosure is not available, we reserve the right to seek a sworn Fit and Proper Person Declaration from you. The declaration must be signed, dated, and stamped by a practicing solicitor or a Commissioner for Oaths.

You do not need the clearance if the applicant:

- Was travelling through the country and had no fixed address
- Resided in the country for a period of less than six months
- Resided in the country more than 10 years ago and has provided correspondence
- proving that police clearance cannot be obtained.

### Helpful websites for Clearance below –

- **Australia** [www.afp.gov.au](http://www.afp.gov.au)

This website will provide you with information on obtaining a national police clearance certificate for Australia.

- **New Zealand** [www.courts.govt.nz](http://www.courts.govt.nz)

This website will provide you with information on obtaining police clearance in New Zealand

- **United States of America** Please Note: Valid Security/Overseas Clearance from the USA must be obtained from the FBI only <https://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/identity-history-summary-checks/submitting-an-identityhistory-summary-request-to-the-fbi>

FBI - Guide for Obtaining Your FBI Identification Record FBI Clearance is valid for all of the United States and convictions / remarks occurring anywhere in the United States would be noted. Individual US State Clearance (e.g., New York State Clearance) is not acceptable as it is valid for that State alone and convictions / remarks occurring in other States may or may not be noted

***Providing FPCs is the responsibility of the applicant.***

The below link provides a list of countries and organisation contacts that may assist you in acquiring your Foreign Police Clearance Certificate(s). [Obtaining Police Clearance\(s\)](#)