



Queensland

# Compulsory Civil Service Youth Bill 2009





Queensland

# Compulsory Civil Service Youth Bill 2009

## Contents

---

		Page
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Preliminary</b>	
1	Short title . . . . .	4
2	Commencement . . . . .	4
3	Definitions . . . . .	4
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Establishment</b>	
4	Civil service program . . . . .	6
5	Commission of civil service . . . . .	6
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	
6	Age requirements . . . . .	6
7	Licensing requirements . . . . .	7
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Hours to be completed</b>	
8	Number of hours . . . . .	7
9	Reduction of hours . . . . .	7
10	Exemption from program . . . . .	8
<b>Part 5</b>	<b>Penalties</b>	
11	Failure to apply for deferral or exemption . . . . .	8
<b>Part 6</b>	<b>Proof of service and registration</b>	
12	Proof of service . . . . .	9
13	Registering . . . . .	10
14	Loss of registration . . . . .	10
15	Monitoring service . . . . .	11
16	Prohibitions for organisations and activities . . . . .	11



**2009**

---

**A Bill**

for

**A Youth Act to cultivate a habit of philanthropy and civil service**

---

[s 1]

---

**The Youth Parliament of Queensland enacts—** 1

**Part 1 Preliminary** 2

**1 Short title** 3

This Youth Act may be cited as the *Compulsory Civil Service Youth Act 2009*. 4  
5

**2 Commencement** 6

This Youth Act commences on a day to be fixed by proclamation. 7  
8

**3 Definitions** 9

In this Youth Act— 10

*activities* refer to specific deeds, actions, functions or spheres of action. 11  
12

*card 18+* means the alternative to a passport or a driver licence demonstrating proof of age in Queensland as established under the *Liquor Act 1992*. 13  
14  
15

*citizen* means a person with Australian Citizenship. 16

*compulsory* means required, mandatory or obligatory. 17

*disability* refers to a young person being unable to participate due to physical, mental or psychological incapacity. 18  
19

*discounts* means to deduct a certain amount or to offer something at a reduced cost. 20  
21

*entity* refers to something of real existence. 22

*Example—* 23

a group or committee. 24

---

<i>excessive responsibility</i> refers to a situation where a youth participating in the program is placed in an unpaid position (within a for-profit group/organisation) that holds them responsible for extreme financial loss or benefit.	1 2 3 4
<i>exemption</i> refers to being free from obligation or liability to which others are subject in this program.	5 6
<i>financial disadvantage</i> refers to significant financial hardship where the youth, or the family of the youth, are eligible for Centrelink benefits, in community housing or have no permanent home.	7 8 9 10
<i>financial incentives</i> refer to a young person participating in civil service being paid with monies or something of monetary value.	11 12 13
<i>organisation</i> refers to persons (or committees or departments etc.) who make up a body for the purpose of administering something.	14 15 16
<i>program</i> refers to this plan of action to cultivate a habit of philanthropy and service.	17 18
<i>service</i> refers to being useful and beneficial to the community.	19
<i>time constraints</i> refers to situations where a youth cannot commit to the total hours required due to extreme working conditions combined with some other significant factor.	20 21 22
<i>unfit</i> refers to a person being unable to participate in the program due to extenuating physical, financial, mental, time or health situations.	23 24 25
<i>youth</i> is a person that is between the ages of 12 and 25.	26

[s 4]

---

<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Establishment</b>	1
<b>4</b>	<b>Civil service program</b>	2
	The State Government must introduce a program of mandatory civil service by 1 January 2011.	3 4
<b>5</b>	<b>Commission of civil service</b>	5
(1)	The Commission of Civil Service is to be established within the Department of Premier and Cabinet to implement and monitor the State Government's civil service program.	6 7 8
(2)	The Commission of Civil Service will be responsible for developing additional components of the civil service program in conjunction with the guidelines outlined in this Youth Act.	9 10 11 12
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	13
<b>6</b>	<b>Age requirements</b>	14
(1)	All citizens are officially of age to begin the civil service program on the day of their sixteenth birthday.	15 16
(2)	The required hours detailed in section 8 must be completed by 31 December in the year of the citizen's twenty-first birthday.	17 18
(3)	If a person becomes a citizen within the age requirements of the program, they are required to apply for a reduction of hours, however, this is only applicable to the year of citizenship.	19 20 21 22
(4)	The year following citizenship requires complete adherence to the civil service program unless otherwise indicated by application.	23 24 25

---

(5)	The civil service program is equally required of all citizens regardless of the educational and employment status of the citizen.	1 2 3
<b>7</b>	<b>Licensing requirements</b>	4
(1)	Citizens participating in the program must apply for the appropriate licensing in any required field of service.	5 6
(2)	After their sixteenth birthday, citizens are required to apply for a blue card to ensure licensing throughout the program and consistency with current legislation requirements.	7 8 9
(3)	If the ability to complete the program is restricted by age or licensing applications, it is possible to apply for reduction or exemption from the program as detailed in section 9(1).	10 11 12
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Hours to be completed</b>	13
<b>8</b>	<b>Number of hours</b>	14
(1)	All eligible citizens are required to complete a minimum of 500 hours of registered civil service over 5 years.	15 16
(2)	All eligible citizens must complete a minimum of 100 hours of registered civil service each year over the 5 year term.	17 18
(3)	There is no maximum limit on the hours of service an eligible citizen may choose to undertake.	19 20
(4)	Should an eligible citizen wish to complete additional hours to the annual minimum, this service will not incur a reduction of hours in the following year nor accumulate towards the final total of 500 hours.	21 22 23 24
<b>9</b>	<b>Reduction of hours</b>	25
(1)	Participants in the civil service program may appeal to the Commission of Civil Service if a revision of required hours is	26 27

[s 10]

---

necessary due to personal hardship or ineligibility to obtain relevant licences.	1 2
(2) Possible hardships may include the following—	3
(a) financial disadvantages;	4
(b) physical disabilities;	5
(c) time constraints;	6
(d) severe health problems;	7
(e) any other situation that the participant feels would affect their ability to complete their obligation under section 8(1) or (2).	8 9 10
(3) Proof of a physical disability or medical condition is required to be presented with the initial application.	11 12
(4) The Commission of Civil Service is to make decisions relating to the specific reduction of hours provided to each case.	13 14 15
(5) Participants with reduced hours are exempt from penalties outlined in part 5.	16 17
<b>10 Exemption from program</b>	18
(1) Participants unfit to complete the standard program may appeal to the Commission of Civil Service.	19 20
(2) The decision is solely the responsibility of the Commission and the criteria for exemptions are to be set by the Commission.	21 22 23
<b>Part 5 Penalties</b>	24
<b>11 Failure to apply for deferral or exemption</b>	25
(1) If a person does not file an application for a deferral or exemption from civil service in the first year of service	26 27



[s 13]

---

- 13 Registering** 1
- (1) All eligible citizens must register their participation in the civil service program with the Commission of Civil Service. 2  
3
- (2) In the registration, the applicant must identify the following— 4
- (a) the organisation with which they will complete the required hours of civil service; 5  
6
- (b) the activities they will perform to complete the required hours of civil service. 7  
8
- (3) The Commission of Civil Service is to determine whether organisations or activities identified by an applicant for the civil service program are suitable prior to the applicant beginning their program of service. 9  
10  
11  
12
- (4) Any organisation or activity identified by an applicant and approved of by the Commission of Civil Service will become officially registered. 13  
14  
15
- (5) Organisations must also be provided an avenue to register themselves with the Commission of Civil Service as suitable organisations for citizens to undergo their program of civil service. 16  
17  
18  
19
- 14 Loss of registration** 20
- If a registered organisation pays a citizen for undertaking their civil service program with them, or is found to misrepresent the hours undertaken by the citizen, the organisation has committed an offence. 21  
22  
23  
24
- Maximum penalty— 25
- (a) 100 penalty units; and 26
- (b) deregistration by the Commission of Civil Service as an approved organisation for the civil service program. 27  
28

---

<b>15</b>	<b>Monitoring service</b>	1
	A monitor for each participant of the civil service program	2
	must be nominated from the relevant organisation for the civil	3
	service program.	4
<b>16</b>	<b>Prohibitions for organisations and activities</b>	5
(1)	Organisations and activities must not be deemed as acceptable	6
	for the civil service program if—	7
(a)	the activity or organisation exposes the youth to	8
	violence; or	9
(b)	the activity or organisation negligently exposes the	10
	youth to circumstances or situations that are deemed	11
	morally, sexually, racially, religiously or intellectually	12
	demeaning; or	13
(c)	the activity involves the youth breaking the law;	14
(d)	it is expected that the youth will be placed into a	15
	position of excessive responsibility; or	16
(e)	the organisation offers financial incentives or discounts	17
	of any kind.	18
(2)	Organisations and activities may be exempt from the whole of	19
	subsection (1) if—	20
(a)	the organisation or activity monitor included the activity	21
	in the initial registration process as part of the risk and	22
	health and safety assessments; or	23
(b)	the activity is completely relevant to the civil service	24
	position or is a requirement for the unpaid position.	25