

Fact sheet

Information for **Affiliates**



What is the Companion Card?

The Companion Card program is a not for profit program funded by the NSW Government.

A Companion Card is for people with significant and permanent disability that need a carer with them at all times to participate in community based activities and venues.

The card itself is the size of a credit card, with the name and a photo of the holder – who is the person with disability. When the holder buys a ticket for themselves at participating venues and facilities, their companion will get free entry.

Companion Cards are not means tested and those assessed as eligible have the card for life.

Benefits for Affiliates

The Companion Card:

- » provides an opportunity for an organisation or business to demonstrate commitment to social inclusion and community access for people with disability
- » provides a simple, consistent and reliable method of identifying people with disability who require significant attendant care support to participate in activities and visit venues
- » can assist organisations and businesses to meet some obligations under anti-discrimination laws
- » provides access to an extensive and often untapped market of people with disability.

Affiliation is **FREE**. Businesses and organisations that affiliate with the scheme are provided with promotional materials, as well as an entry in the searchable online database used by cardholders.

Affiliate obligations

Affiliates agree to:

- » issue a minimum of 1 companion ticket at no charge to cardholders
- » accept a Companion Card issued in any Australian state or territory
- » their business details being listed on the national Companion Card website, and in the NSW Companion Card affiliate directory and online database.
- » abide by the Companion Card affiliate terms and conditions.

The costs associated with providing a companion ticket are absorbed by the business or organisation.


Protection for Affiliates

The Companion Card has a rigorous application and audit process to minimise the risk of misuse.

The card incorporates a number of security features that can be used to verify card holder information.

If an affiliate suspects misuse of the Companion Card, they should call the NSW Companion Card team immediately on (Freecall) **1800 893 044**.

How to register

If you are interested in becoming an Affiliate of the Companion Card program in NSW complete the **Industry Affiliation Form** and return by email to  affiliates.companioncard@facns.nsw.gov.au



 info.companioncard@facns.nsw.gov.au

 1800 893 044

 www.companioncard.nsw.gov.au