

Privacy Policy and Procedure



Australian Technical College
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

RTO Code: 41279 CRICOS Code: 03437B

Privacy Policy and Procedure

1. Purpose

ATCWA is committed to providing quality training and assessment in accordance with the Standards for Registered Training Organisations (SRTOs 2015). As such, ATCWA is required to comply with Federal law regarding Privacy and confidentiality of employees, students and contractors.

The purpose of this policy is to outline how ATCWA complies with Privacy Act 1988 and Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) as outlined in the *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*.

As a component of our risk management practices, ATCWA has conducted a Privacy Impact Assessment for all operations. Mitigation actions from this risk assessment have been implemented for the management of privacy risks at each stage of the information lifecycle, including collection, use, disclosure, storage, destruction and de-identification.

Providing an overall framework for our privacy practices, ATCWA has developed and implemented this APP Privacy Policy.

ATCWA manages personal information in an open and transparent way. This is evident in the implementation of practices, procedures and system we outline in this policy, that ensure our compliance with the APPs and any binding registered APP code, and provide suitable procedures for ATCWA personnel to be able to deal with related inquiries and complaints that may be received from time to time.

The following sections of this policy outline how we manage personal information.

2. Why we collect your personal information

As a registered training organisation (RTO), we collect your personal information so we can process and manage your enrolment in a vocational education and training (VET) course with us.

If you do not provide your personal information to us, we will not be able to enrol you as a student.

3. How we use your personal information

ATCWA uses your personal information to enable us to deliver VET courses to you, and otherwise, as needed, to comply with our obligations as an RTO.

How ATCWA may disclose your personal information:

We are required by law (under the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011 (Cth) (NVETR Act)) to disclose the personal information we collect about you to the National VET Data Collection kept by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd (NCVER). The NCVER is responsible for collecting, managing, analysing and communicating research and statistics about the Australian VET sector.

ATCWA is also authorised by law (under the NVETR Act) to disclose your personal information to the relevant state or territory training authority.

Please also note: Students' personal information may be disclosed to overseas recipients such as your education agents.

4. Policy Statement

ATCWA is committed to complying with obligation under Privacy Act 1988, and the associated Australian Privacy Principles (APPs), specifically in the way it collects, uses, secures and discloses personal information. ATCWA is committed to safeguarding any confidential information obtained by the RTO.

ATCWA will ensure:

- It maintains and provides a current Privacy Policy;
- Information gathered for the express purpose of training and assessment matters will not be disclosed to a third party unless prior written consent is provided by the individual concerned, except that required by law;
- The secure storage of all records;
- The confidentiality of all information maintained on records.

5. Policy Principles

5.1 Legislation

- a) ATCWA, although not required to, chooses to abide by the Privacy Act 1988 and associated 13 x Australian Privacy Principles (APPs).
- b) The APPs came into force on 12 March 2014 and set out standards, rights and obligations for the handling, holding, accessing and correction of personal information (including sensitive information).

5.2 Underpinning Principles

- a) Personal Information is defined in the Privacy Act 1988 to mean "information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable:
 - i. whether the information or opinion is true or not; and
 - ii. whether the information or opinion is recorded in a material form or not.
- b) Sensitive Personal Information is defined in the Privacy Act 1988 to mean "information or an opinion about an individual's" that is also personal information, such as:
 - i. racial or ethnic origin; or
 - ii. political opinions; or
 - iii. membership of a political association; or
 - iv. religious beliefs or affiliations; or

- v. philosophical beliefs; or
- vi. membership of a professional or trade association; or
- vii. membership of a trade union; or
- viii. sexual orientation or practices; or
- ix. criminal record.

5.3 Consideration of Personal Information Privacy

a) Open and Transparent Management of Personal Information.

ATCWA will :

- i. Ensure that personal information is managed in an open and transparent way.
- ii. Take reasonable steps to implement practices and procedures that will facilitate dealing with enquiries or complaints from individuals regarding compliance with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs).
- iii. Ensure that it maintains an up-to-date policy about the management of personal information.
- iv. Ensure that ATCWA Privacy Policy contains the following information:
 - The kind of information that is collected and held;
 - How the information is collected and held;
 - The purposes for which information is collected, held, used and disclosed;
 - How an individual may access their personal information that is held by ATCWA and seek correction of such information as necessary;
 - How the individual may make a complaint about a breach of the APPs and how Australian Technical College will deal with such a complaint;
 - Whether ATCWA is likely to disclose personal information to overseas recipients, and if so the countries in which such are likely to be located.
- v. Provide the Privacy Policy free of charge and in such form as appropriate, and as is reasonable.

b) Anonymity and pseudonymity

ATCWA will :

- i. Respect that individuals may not wish to identify themselves when making enquiries on ATCWA products and services;
- ii. However, require full personal details as required by law and for identification purposes from students.

5.4 Collection of Personal Information

- a) ATCWA will not collect personal information from you unless that information is necessary for one or more of its functions or activities, or is required by law.
- b) ATCWA advises that it is required by law to collect, hold, use and supply personal information, in accordance with the National VET Provider Collection Data Provision Requirements.
- c) How the NCVET and other bodies handle your personal information:

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The NCVET will collect, hold, use and disclose your personal information in accordance with the law, including the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (Privacy Act) and the NVET Act. Your personal information may be used and disclosed by NCVET for purposes that include populating authenticated VET transcripts; administration of VET; facilitation of statistics and research relating to education, including surveys and data linkage; and understanding the VET market.

The NCVET is authorised to disclose information to the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE), Commonwealth authorities, State and Territory authorities (other than registered training organisations) that deal with matters relating to VET and VET regulators for the purposes of those bodies, including to enable:

- administration of VET, including program administration, regulation, monitoring and evaluation
- facilitation of statistics and research relating to education, including surveys and data linkage
- understanding how the VET market operates, for policy, workforce planning and consumer information.

The NCVET may also disclose personal information to persons engaged by NCVET to conduct research on NCVET's behalf.

The NCVET does not intend to disclose your personal information to any overseas recipients.

For more information about how the NCVET will handle your personal information please refer to the NCVET's Privacy Policy at www.ncvet.edu.au/privacy.

If you would like to seek access to or correct your information, in the first instance, please contact us using the contact details listed:

ATCWA: 8 Francis Street, Perth, WA 6000.

PHONE NUMBER +61 8 6377 8270

EMAIL ADDRESS: info@atc.wa.edu.au

Web: <http://atc.wa.edu.au>

DESE is authorised by law, including the Privacy Act and the NVET Act, to collect, use and disclose your personal information to fulfil specified functions and activities.

For more information about how the DESE will handle your personal information, please refer to the DESE VET Privacy Notice at <https://www.dese.gov.au/national-vet-data/vet-privacy-notice>.

- d) ATCWA will take reasonable steps at or before the time of collection to ensure that you are aware of:
- i. Who we are and how to contact us;
 - ii. How to gain access to your own information;
 - iii. The purpose for which the information is being collected;
 - iv. Any organisation to which we would normally disclose information of that kind;
 - v. Any law that requires the particular information to be collected;
 - vi. The main consequences for the individual if all or part of the information is not provided.
- e) ATCWA collects information from you in the following ways:
- i. When you register your interest on line, apply for enrolment, request certain services or products, or otherwise contact or do business with us.
 - ii. Information may be collected from enrolment forms, certified documents, telephone calls, faxes, emails, letters sent by you.

- iii. Information may be collected from third parties, such as other training providers, regarding confirmation of training and ongoing professional development that you have attended, as permitted by you.
- f) Should ATCWA collect information about you from a third party we will take reasonable steps to ensure that the individual is or has been made aware of the matters listed above except to the extent that making the individual aware of the matters would pose a serious threat to the life or health of any individual.

5.5 Dealing with Personal Information

- a) ATCWA will not use or disclose personal or sensitive information for any purpose other than what it was collected for, unless the relevant person has provided written consent to use or disclose that information in circumstances that are different to those for which it was collected.
The circumstances where an exception may occur are:
 - i. Where the use or disclosure of this information is required or authorised by or under an Australian law or a court/tribunal order;
 - ii. The individual would reasonably expect ATCWA to use or disclose the information for the secondary purpose;
 - iii. A permitted health situation exists in relation to the use or disclosure of the information by ATCWA;
 - iv. A permitted general situation exists in relation to the use or disclosure of the information by ATCWA;
 - v. ATCWA reasonably believes that the use or disclosure of the information is reasonably necessary for one or more enforcement related activities conducted by, or on behalf of, an enforcement body.
- b) ATCWA collects your personal information so as to:
 - i. Process applications;
 - ii. Manage your enrolment;
 - iii. Record and maintain your details;
 - iv. Administering training programs;
 - v. Record and maintain details of your ongoing training and assessment;
 - vi. Provide you with details regarding client services, benefits, and training opportunities;
 - vii. Notify you about upcoming events and opportunities;
 - viii. Gain feedback from you;
 - ix. Communicate with you;
 - x. Report to relevant authorities as required by law.
- c) Direct Marketing
ATCWA:
 - i. May use personal information (specifically your name and relevant address details) and information about your preferences for direct marketing (i.e. the communication channels which you prefer for receiving direct marketing from us and the types of products and services in which you are interested in) so as to let you know about our services and benefits, where we have your consent.
 - ii. Provides an opt-out and/or unsubscribe method that is easily accessible for individuals to request not to receive direct marketing communications.

d) Cross Border Disclosure

ATCWA:

- iii. Does not disclose personal information to overseas recipients unless prior written approval is received by the individual to whom the personal information relates.

e) Adoption, use or disclosure of Government Related identifiers

ATCWA:

- i. Is required by law (*Student Identifier Act*) to collect, maintain and report to relevant Government agencies the individual's Unique Student Identifier (USI) number in accordance with the National VET Provider Collection Data Provision Requirements.
- ii. Will not disclose the Unique Student Identifier (USI) number for any other purpose, including on any Certification documents you receive.
- iii. Must not adopt the Unique Student Identifier (USI) number as its own identifier of the individual.

5.6 Integrity of Personal Information

a) Quality of personal information

ATCWA will take steps, as are reasonable, to ensure that the personal information it:

- i. Collects is accurate, up to date and complete;
- ii. Uses or discloses, is, having regard to the purpose of the use or disclosure, accurate, up to date, complete and relevant.

b) Security of personal information

ATCWA will take steps, as are reasonable in the circumstances to:

- i. Protect the information from misuse, interference and loss as well as unauthorised access, modification or disclosure.
- ii. Destroy the information or to ensure that the information is de-identified.

5.7 Access to, and correction of, Personal Information

a. ATCWA provides students with access to personal records when and if necessary.

b. In some circumstances, ATCWA may not permit access to individuals for their personal information. If this is ever the case, ATCWA will provide full details for the legal reasons for this decision. These may include that ATCWA believes :

- i. That giving access to the information would pose a serious threat to the life, health or safety of the individual, or to public health or public safety; or
- ii. Giving access would have an unreasonable impact on the privacy of other individuals; or
- iii. The request for access is frivolous or vexatious; or
- iv. The information relates to existing or anticipated legal proceedings between ATCWA and the individual, and would not be accessible by the process of discovery in those proceedings; or
- v. Giving access would reveal the intentions of ATCWA in relation to negotiations with the individual in such a way as to prejudice those negotiations; or
- vi. Giving access would be unlawful; or

- vii. Denying access is required or authorised by or under an Australian law or a court/tribunal order; or
- viii. Both of the following apply:
 - ATCWA has reason to suspect that unlawful activity, or misconduct of a serious nature, that relates to ATCWA functions or activities has been, is being or may be engaged in;
 - Giving access would be likely to prejudice the taking of appropriate action in relation to the matters; or
- ix. Giving access would be likely to prejudice one or more enforcement related activities conducted by, or on behalf of, an enforcement body; or
- x. Giving access would reveal evaluative information generated within ATCWA in connection with a commercially sensitive decision-making process.
- c. When dealing with requests for access to personal information, ATCWA will:
 - i. Respond to request for access within 30 days of the request, if from an individual, and within a reasonable time, if the request is from an organisation; and
 - ii. Provide access to the information in the manner requested, if it is reasonable and practicable to do so.
- d. ATCWA does not charge a fee for access to personal information. The exception is re-prints of certification documentation previously supplied.
- e. With regard to the correction of personal information held:
 - i. should ATCWA be satisfied that information is inaccurate, out of date, incomplete, irrelevant or misleading, ATCWA will take such steps as reasonable to correct the information to ensure that, having regard to the purpose for which it is held, the information is accurate, up-to-date, complete, relevant and not misleading.
 - ii. Should ATCWA refuse to correct information, ATCWA will give written notice to the individual that sets out:
 - The reason for refusal
 - The mechanisms available to complain about the refusal; and
 - Any other matter prescribed by the regulations.

6. Procedure to Access Information

Students Obtaining Access to Own Records

Students have access to their own records through their person login into the Student Management System (SMS).

STEP 1 – Application to access own records – Paper-based/ documentation

No.	Who	Actions
1.1	Student	a) Student advises in writing they wish to view their own records “Paper-based” (i.e. Student file) kept by ATCWA
1.2	Admin	a) Communicate with student confirming their needs. b) Confirm identify of the student. c) Arrange a date / time for the student to attend and view their records.

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STEP 2 – Accessing own records

No.	Who	Actions
2.1	Student	a) Student arrives to view their own “Student file”.
2.2	Admin	a) Verify identification of student. b) Retrieve student file. c) Provide private access for student to view their own records under supervision.
2.3	Student	a) Student views to view their own “Student file”. b) Student is not permitted to remove any documentation from their own file, however may request a copy of the documentation.
2.4	Admin	a) Return student file to filing system.

Student Allowing Access of their Records to a third party

Students have access to their own records through their person login into the Student Management System (SMS).

STEP 1 – Application by a student for a third party to access student records / information

No.	Who	Actions
1.1	Student	a) Student completes “ Privacy Disclosure Form ” and submits to admin, allowing a third party to access the students own records/ information.
1.2	Admin	a) Communicate with student confirming their needs. b) Confirm identify of the student. c) Confirm identify of the third party. d) Arrange a date / time for the third party to attend and view the records, or discuss personal details of the student. e) May need to communicate with Third party to arrange date and time. f) Note on the student records, both SMS and Client file, that a third party has authority to view records. g) Place “ Privacy Disclosure Form ” on student file.

STEP 2 – Accessing Student records by a Third party

No.	Who	Actions
2.1	Third party	a) Third party arrives to view the student records “Student file”, or calls to receive client specific information.
2.2	Admin	a) Verify identification of Third party. b) Retrieve student file. c) Provide private access for Third party to view the records under supervision, or provide personal information as permitted and written on the “ Privacy Disclosure Form ”.
2.3	Third party	a) Third party views the “Student file”.

		b) Third party is not permitted to remove any documentation from the student file, however may request a copy of the documentation if this has been the instruction given by the student on the “ Privacy Disclosure Form ”.
2.4	Admin	a) Returns student file to filing system.

7. ATCWA College Responsibilities

Management at ATCWA ensures that all employees are made aware of this policy and its underpinning legislative requirements, and comply with this policy at all times.

Management of ATCWA ensures that all students have access to and awareness of this policy.

8. Records Management

All personal information and records are maintained in accordance with Records Management Policy. (See Records Management Policy)

9. Monitoring and Improvement

All practices for Privacy are monitored by the Management at ATCWA and areas for improvement identified and acted upon. (See Continuous Improvement Policy)