

Sex work is legal work in NSW

The NSW sex industry

Sex work, operating a sex industry business or being a sex worker are all legal in NSW, as long as the relevant NSW laws and regulations are adhered to. Anyone 18 years and older may legally provide sex services to a person over the age of consent (16 years old) in exchange for money, goods or favours. However, a person under the age of 18 is not legally permitted to enter a sex services premises.

Understanding the law and regulations

If you are working (or considering working) in the sex industry it's important to understand the laws and regulations related to your work.

These organisations can help you understand the law and your rights:

- [Sex Workers Outreach Project](#) (SWOP): NSW organisation run by sex workers for sex workers. They can give you information on sexual health, workplace health and safety, your legal rights, and different ways to work. They can also give you safe sex supplies free of charge. They have staff who speak Mandarin, Cantonese, and Thai.
- [Scarlet Alliance – Australian Sex Workers Association](#): Australia-wide sex workers' organisation.
- [Inner City Legal Centre](#) have a sex worker legal service and can help you with any legal problems or questions you might have (interpreters available).

Sexual health

Your sexual health is important! Learn to recognise the signs and symptoms of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), in yourself and your clients. [Redbook online](#) has lots of information on sexual health and how to check clients for signs of STIs.

NSW Sexual Health Centres provide free sexual health screenings and treatment to all sex workers. You do not need a Medicare card or insurance, and you do not need to provide your real name. [Find your nearest NSW Sexual Health Clinic](#).

SUPRA supports all students working in the sex industry. If you are working in the sex industry and need advice or assistance with understanding your employment rights, or access to free sexual health support and supplies, we recommend you speak to one of our professional and confidential solicitors or caseworkers.

Disclaimer

This information is current as at July 2023 and where it includes legal information is intended as a guide to the law as it applies to people who live in or are affected by the law as it applies in NSW. It does not constitute legal advice.

Written by SUPRA Postgraduate Advocacy Service August 2023