



# Privacy Policy

---

## Introduction

This policy applies to information collected by Socius Group Pty Ltd.

We will only collect information that is reasonably necessary for the proper performance of our activities or functions.

We do not collect personal information just because we think it could be useful at some future stage if we have no present need for it.

We do not collect or use personal information for the purposes of unlawful discrimination.

We may decline to collect unsolicited personal information from or about you and may take such measures as we think appropriate to purge it from our systems.

By following the links in this document, you will be able to find out how we manage your personal information as an [APP Entity](#) under the [Australian Privacy Principles \(APPs\)](#).

You will also be able to find out about the [information flows](#) associated with that information.

If you have any questions please [contact us](#).

## APP Entity

Socius Group Pty Ltd manages personal information, as an APP Entity, under the [Australian Privacy Principles \(APPs\)](#).

Because we are a contracted service provider to a range of Commonwealth, State and Territory government agencies, it sometimes becomes necessary for us to collect and manage personal information as an Agency under different privacy arrangements.

If you wish to know whether this applies to you, please [contact us](#).

## Information Flow

When we collect your personal information:

- we check that it is reasonably necessary for our [functions or activities](#) as recruitment consulting firm.
- we check that it is current, complete and accurate. This will sometimes mean that we have to cross check the information that we collect from you with third parties;
- we record and hold your information in our [Information Record System](#). Some information may be disclosed to [overseas recipients](#).
- we retrieve your information when we need to use or disclose it for our [functions and activities](#). At that time, we check that it is current, complete, accurate and relevant. This will sometimes mean that we have to cross check the information that we collect from you with third parties once again - especially if some time has passed since we last checked.
- subject to some exceptions, we permit you to [access](#) your personal information in accordance with APP:12 of the [\(APPs\)](#).

- we [correct or attach associated statements to](#) your personal information in accordance with APP:13 of the (APPs).
- we destroy or de-identify your personal information when it is no longer needed for any [purpose](#) for which it may be used or disclosed provided that it is lawful for us to do so. We do not destroy or de-identify information that is contained in a [Commonwealth Record](#).

## Future Changes

This policy may change over time in light of changes to privacy laws, technology and business practice. If you use our website regularly or conduct transactions with us that involve to collection of your personal information, it is important that you check this policy regularly to ensure that you are aware of the extent of any consent, authorisation or permission you might give.

## Kinds of information that we collect and hold

The type of personal information that we collect and hold is information that is reasonably necessary for the proper performance of our [functions and activities](#) as a recruitment consulting firm and is likely to differ depending on whether you are:

- a [Candidate](#) - i.e. someone who is looking for a placement or work through us; or whom we have identified as person, who might be receptive to an offer of a placement or work through us;
- a [Client](#) - i.e. someone other than a [Candidate](#), who is looking to acquire our services as a recruitment consulting firm or whom we have identified as someone, who might be interested in acquiring our services;
- a [Referee](#) - i.e. a person from whom we have sought facts or opinions regarding the suitability of one of our [Candidates](#) for work or positions through us; and who may be a [Referee](#) nominated by the [Candidate](#), a [Client](#) or us.

Sensitive information is only collected with consent and where it is necessary for the performance of our functions and activities. Sensitive information will need to be collected where it relates to a genuine occupational requirement or an inherent requirement of the job or work being considered. Our collection of some types of sensitive information is also governed by equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws.

## For Candidates

The type of information that we typically collect and hold about Candidates is information that is necessary to assess amenability to work offers and work availability; suitability for placements; or to manage the performance in work obtained through us. It includes:

- information submitted and obtained from Candidates and other sources (e.g. Referees or Clients) in connection with applications for work;
- information about personality, character, skills, qualifications and experience;
- information about career path and preferences;
- information about work entitlement and ability to undertake specific types of work;
- work performance information;
- information about incidents in the workplace;
- personnel information including contact details;
- information submitted and obtained in relation to absences from work due to leave, illness or other causes;



## For Clients

The type of information that we typically collect and hold about Clients is information that is necessary to help us manage the presentation and delivery of our services and includes:

- client relationship information;
- information about position, contracting and hiring authority;
- information about team structures and roles;
- information about incidents in the workplace;

## For Referees

The type of information that we typically collect and hold about Referees is information that is necessary to help to make determinations about the suitability of one of our Candidates for particular jobs or particular types of work and may include:

- information about work position, authority to give a reference and preferred contact details;
- opinions of the Referee regarding the Candidate's character and work performance or work environment;
- facts or evidence in support of those opinions, sometimes involving the Referee's own knowledge and experience of having worked with the Candidate;

## Purposes

The purposes for which we collect, hold, use and disclose your personal information are those purposes that are reasonably necessary for the proper performance of our functions and activities as a recruitment consulting firm and are likely to differ depending on whether you are:

- a [Candidate](#)
- a [Client](#)
- a [Referee](#)

The following sections are also relevant to our use and disclosure of your personal information:

- [General Disclosures](#)
- [Our Policy on Direct Marketing](#)

## For Candidates


Information that we collect, hold, use and disclose about Candidates is typically used for:

- work placement operations;
- recruitment functions;
- staff management;
- payment purposes;
- training needs assessments;
- risk management;
- work health and safety operations;
- marketing services to you; but only where this is permitted and whilst you are registered with us;
- statistical purposes and statutory compliance requirements;

## For Clients

Personal information that we collect, hold, use and disclose about Clients is typically used for:

- client and business relationship management;
- work placement operations;
- recruitment functions;
- training needs assessments;
- risk management;

- 
- work health and safety operations;
  - marketing services to you;
  - statistical purposes and statutory compliance requirements

## For Referees

Personal information that we collect, hold, use and disclose about Referees is typically used for:

- to confirm identity and authority to provide references;
- Candidate suitability assessment;
- recruitment functions;
- risk management;

## Our Policy on Direct Marketing

Your personal information may be used for marketing purposes, for example when we send out newsletter or surveys. We use Mail Chimp, Survey Monkey and Eventbrite for direct marketing. All emails sent as direct marketing will have an opt out option to allow you to stop receiving direct marketing from Socius Group.

## How your personal information is collected

The means by which we will generally collect your personal information are likely to differ depending on whether you are:

- a [Candidate](#)
- a [Client](#)
- a [Referee](#)

Sometimes the technology that is used to support communications between us will provide personal information to us - see the section in this policy on [Electronic Transactions](#)


See also the section on [Photos & Images](#).

## For Candidates

Personal information will be collected from you directly when you fill out and submit one of our application forms or any other information in connection with your application to us for work.

Personal information is also collected when:

- we receive or give any reference about you;
- we receive results of inquiries that we might make of your former employers, work colleagues, professional associations or registration body;
- we receive the results of any competency, psychometric, or medical test;
- we receive performance feedback (whether positive or negative);
- we receive any complaint from or about you in the workplace;
- we receive any information about a workplace accident in which you are involved;
- we receive any information about any insurance investigation, litigation, registration or professional disciplinary matter, criminal matter, inquest or inquiry in which you are involved;
- you provide us with any additional information about you;
- electronically through our telecommunications and technology systems – see the section in this policy on [Electronic Transactions](#);



We may also collect personal information about you from a range of publicly available sources including newspapers, journals, directories, the Internet and social media sites. When we collect personal information about you from publicly available sources for inclusion in our records we will manage the information in accordance with the [APPs](#) and our Privacy Policy.

## For Clients

Personal information about you may be collected:

- when you provide it to us for business or business related social purposes;
- electronically through our telecommunications and technology systems – see the section in this policy on [Electronic Transactions](#);

We may also collect personal information about you from a range of publicly available sources including newspapers, journals, directories, the Internet and social media sites. When we collect personal information about you from publicly available sources for inclusion in our records we will manage the information in accordance with the [APPs](#) and our Privacy Policy.

## For Referees

Personal information about you may be collected when you provide it to us:

- in the course of our checking Candidate references with you and when we are checking information that we obtain from you about Candidates;
- for business or business related social purposes;
- electronically through our telecommunications and technology systems – see the section in this policy on [Electronic Transactions](#);

We may also collect personal information about you from a range of publicly available sources including newspapers, journals, directories, the Internet and social media sites. When we collect personal information about you from publicly available sources for inclusion in our records we will manage the information in accordance with the [APPs](#) and our Privacy Policy.

## Photos & Images

We will not request that you supply photographs, scan photo ID, or capture and retain video image data of you in cases where simply sighting photographs or proof of identity documents would be sufficient in the circumstances.

At times video surveillance which operates in or near our premises may capture images of you.

You should also read the section about [Electronic Transactions](#) because sometimes your communications with us may attach profile images of yourself that you have uploaded to the Internet.


## Electronic Transactions

This section explains how we handle personal information collected from our [website](#) and by other technology in the course of electronic transactions.

It is important that you understand that there are risks associated with use of the Internet and you should take all appropriate steps to protect your personal information. It might help you to look at the OAIC's resource on [Internet Communications and other Technologies](#).

It is important that you:

- know your rights: read our privacy policy, collection statement and consent to electronic transactions.
- be careful what information you share on the Web.
- use privacy tools on the site - control access to your search listing and profile.
- make sure your anti-virus and data protection software is up-to-date.



Please [contact us](#) by land line phone or mail if you have concerns about making contact via the Internet.

Sometimes, we collect personal information that individuals choose to give us via online forms or by email, for example when individuals:

- ask to be on an email list such as a job notification list;
- register as a site user to access facilities on our site such as a job notification board;
- make a written online enquiry or email us through our website;
- submit a resume by email or through our website;

See also:

- *Social Networks and Web Searches*
- *Browsing*
- *Cookies*
- *Cloud Computing Services*
- *Uploading photographs*
- *Emails*
- *Call and message logs*
- *Teleconferences and Video conferences*
- *Database*
- *Mobile Access*
- *Paperless Office*

### **Social Networks and Web Searches**

In order to assess your suitability for positions and to assist you to find work, we will need to collect, use and disclose personal information about you. It has become common practice in some places for employment service providers to conduct background checking via social network media sites frequented by candidates.

We will not conduct background checking via social network media sites other than those that you identify and authorise us to check. However we do conduct Internet searches using search engines and entering your name and relevant identifying details.

### **Web Browsing**

When you look at our website, our Internet service provider, JXT Consulting, makes a record of the visit and logs (in server logs) the following information for statistical purposes:


- your server address
- your top level domain name (for example .com, .gov, .org, .au, etc)
- the pages you accessed and documents downloaded
- the previous site you visited and
- the type of browser being used.

We do not identify users or their browsing activities except, in the event of an investigation, where a law enforcement agency may exercise a warrant to inspect the Internet service provider's server logs.

We do not accept responsibility for the privacy policy of any other site to which our site has a hyperlink, and it is advisable to look at the privacy policy of other sites before disclosing personal information.

### **Cookies**

Our website uses session cookies during a search query of the website. Our Internet service provider does not employ cookies on our website except in those circumstances. The website statistics for this site are generated from the server logs as outlined above.



When an individual closes their browser the session cookie set by our website is destroyed and no personal information is maintained which might identify an individual should they visit our website at a later date

### **Cloud Computing Services**

In cases where we use cloud computing services we will take reasonable steps to ensure that:

- disclosure of your personal information to the cloud service provider is consistent with our disclosure obligations under the APPs. This may include ensuring that we have obtained your consent, or that the disclosure is for purposes within your reasonable expectations.
- disclosure is consistent with any other legal obligations, such as the restrictions on the disclosure of tax file number information or the disclosure by private employment agencies of Candidate details;

Our Cloud computing services provider's terms of service recognise that we are bound by obligations to protect the privacy of your personal information and that they will not do anything that would cause us to breach those obligations.

### **Uploading Photographs**

We will not upload photographs of any individuals who have not given consent to the display of their photograph.

### **Emails**

Our technology systems log emails received and sent and may include voting, and read and receipt notifications to enable tracking.

When your email address is received by us because you send us a message, the email address will only be used or disclosed for the purpose for which you have provided it and it will not be added to a mailing list or used or disclosed for any other purpose without your consent other than as may be permitted or required by law.

### **Call & Message Logs**

Our telephone technology (systems and mobile phones) logs telephone calls and messages received and sent and enables call number display, which may include your profile picture if you have provided it.

When your call number is received by us because you phone us or send us a message, the number (and profile picture) will only be used or disclosed for the purpose for which you have provided it and it will not be added to a phone list or used or disclosed for any other purpose without your consent other than as may be permitted or required by law.

### **Teleconferences & Video Conferences**

Teleconferences and video conferences may be recorded with your consent. In cases where it is proposed that they be recorded, we will tell you first the purpose for which they are to be used and retained.

### **Database**

We use recruiting software and databases to log and record recruitment operations. Our provider Bullhorn are located in Sydney and have servers hosted in London, England and Boston, U.S.A.

### **Mobile Access**

Our staff use laptops, tablets, phones and other portable electronic devices that allow them to access, retrieve and store your personal information. All mobile devices are password protected and staff are required to change their passwords regularly.



## Paperless Office

Recognising the environmental advantages and efficiencies it provides, we operate a wholly/partially paperless office as a result of which your paper based communications with us may be digitised and retained in digital format. The paper based communications may be culled.

It is therefore important that, except where specifically requested, you do not send us originals of any paper based document and that you retain copies for your own records.

## How your personal information is held

When your personal information is collected it will be held in our [Information Record System](#) until it is no longer needed for any purpose for which it may be used or disclosed at which time it will be de-identified or destroyed provided that it is lawful for us to do so.

Your personal information may be accessed by our staff and disclosed in accordance with the [APPs](#).

We take a range of [measures to protect](#) your personal information. There are some inherent risks in the use of the [Internet Communications and other Technologies](#).

It is important that you read the section on [Electronic Transactions](#) if you are using Internet Communications or other technologies to communicate with us. You should also read the section on [Cross-Border Disclosures](#).

## Our Information Record System

Our information record system is recruitment content management system, Bullhorn. They are located in Sydney and servers are hosted in London, England and Boston, U.S.A.

## Information Security

We take a range of measures to protect your personal information from:

- misuse, interference and loss; and
- unauthorised access, modification or disclosure.

## Staff training

All staff members have completed training on the Privacy laws. We also have an ongoing training schedule to ensure staff members are kept up to date with changes to our legislative requirements.

## “Clean desk” procedures

We have a clean desk policy at Socius Group. Staff are provided with lockable mobile pedestals to store any items that they require on hand at their desk. We also promote a regular time where all staff clean their desks and a tidy up of the office.

## Password protection

Staff are required to update their passwords at least once a quarter.

## Document destruction

The office has a shredder and all hard copy documents are required to be shredded after use.

## Disclosures

This section deals with our disclosure policies. Personal Information that we hold about you is only disclosed for the primary and related [purposes](#) for which it was collected. In this section you will find out about our policies dealing with:





- [General Disclosures](#)
- [Related Purpose Disclosures](#)
- [Cross Border Disclosures](#)

## General Disclosures

We may disclose your personal information for any of the purposes for which it is primarily held or for a related purpose where lawfully permitted.

We may disclose your personal information where we are under a legal duty to do so.

Disclosure will usually be:

- internally and to our related entities
- to our Clients
- to Referees for suitability and screening purposes.

In addition to disclosures for general purposes, we may also disclose your personal information for a range of [related purposes](#).

## Related Purpose Disclosures

We outsource a number of services to contracted service suppliers (CSPs) from time to time. Our CSPs may see some of your personal information. Typically our CSPs would include:

- Software solutions providers;
- I.T. contractors and database designers and Internet service suppliers;
- Legal and other professional advisors;
- Insurance brokers, loss assessors and underwriters;
- Superannuation fund managers;
- Background checking and screening agents;
- Accountants, bookkeepers and financial advisers
- Marketing, sponsorships and public relations groups

We take reasonable steps to ensure that terms of service with our CSPs recognise that we are bound by obligations to protect the privacy of your personal information and that they will not do anything that would cause us to breach those obligations.

## Cross-Border Disclosures


Some of your personal information is likely to be disclosed to overseas recipients. The likely countries, type of information disclosed and likely recipients are indicated, so far as is practicable, in the following table:

Table

Country	Type of Information	Likely Recipients
USA	All personal data stored on servers located in Boston	IT Personnel and Contractors of our technology providers who may access data for maintenance and software upgrade purposes
England	All personal data stored on servers located in London	IT Personnel and Contractors of our technology providers who may access data for maintenance and software upgrade purposes

We will take such steps as are reasonable in the circumstances to ensure that the overseas recipient does not breach the Australian Privacy Principles.

However we cannot guarantee that any recipient of your personal information will protect it to the standard to which it ought be protected. The costs and difficulties of enforcement of privacy rights in foreign jurisdictions and the impracticability of attempting to enforce such



rights in some jurisdictions will mean that in some instances, we will need to seek your consent to disclosure.

See also [Electronic Transactions](#).

## Access & Correction

You have a right to access and correct personal information under the [Australian Privacy Principles \(APPs\)](#).

This section sets out our policy dealing with

- [Access](#)
- [Correction](#)

See also: [Complaints](#).

### Access

Subject to some exceptions that are set out in privacy law, you can gain access to the personal information that we hold about you.

Important exceptions include:

- evaluative opinion material obtained confidentially in the course of our performing reference checks and access that would impact on the privacy rights of other people. We do refuse access if it would breach any confidentiality that attaches to that information or if it would interfere with the privacy rights of other people. In many cases evaluative material contained in references that we obtain will be collected under obligations of confidentiality that we make and which the communicator of that information is entitled to expect will be observed.

If you wish to obtain access to your personal information you should contact our Privacy Co-ordinator. You will need to be in a position to verify your identity. We might impose a moderate charge in providing access. Our Privacy Co-ordinator would discuss these with you.

You should also anticipate that it may take a little time to process your application for access as there may be a need to retrieve information from storage and review information in order to determine what information may be provided. We will generally respond to your request for access within 5 working days.

If we refuse to give access to the personal information or to give access in the manner requested by you, we will give you a written notice that sets out:


- the reasons for the refusal except to the extent that, having regard to the grounds for the refusal, it would be unreasonable to do so; and
- the mechanisms available to complain about the refusal.

### Correction

If you find that personal information that we hold about you is inaccurate, out of date, incomplete, irrelevant or misleading, you can ask us to correct it by [contacting](#) us.

We will take such steps as are reasonable in the circumstances to correct that 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.

If we have disclosed personal information about you that is inaccurate, out of date, incomplete, irrelevant or misleading, you can ask us to notify the third parties to whom we made the disclosure and we will take such steps (if any) as are reasonable in the circumstances to give that notification unless it is impracticable or unlawful to do so.



You should also anticipate that it may take a little time to process your application for correction as there may be a need to retrieve information from storage and review information in order to determine what information may be corrected. We will generally respond to your request for access within 5 working days.

There is no charge to correct information.

In some cases we may not agree that the information should be changed.

If we refuse to correct your personal information as requested by you, we will give you a written notice that sets out:

- the reasons for the refusal except to the extent that it would be unreasonable to do so; and
- the mechanisms available to complain about the refusal.

You may also ask us to associate a statement that the information is contested as being inaccurate, out of date, incomplete, irrelevant or misleading and we will take such steps as are reasonable to do so.

## Complaints

You have a right to complain about our handling of your personal information if you believe that we have interfered with your privacy.

In this section you can learn:

- [How to complain](#)
- [How your complaint will be handled](#)

See also the section dealing with [Access & Correction](#).

### How to complain

If you are making a complaint about our handling of your personal information, it should first be made to us in writing.

You can make complaints about our handling of your personal information to our Privacy Co-ordinator, whose contact details are Socius Group on 08 6141 3226 or [info@sociusgroup.com.au](mailto:info@sociusgroup.com.au)


You can also make complaints to the [Office of the Australian Information Commissioner](#).

Complaints may also be made to [ITCRA](#) industry association of which we are a member. ITCRA administers a [Code of Conduct](#) for the professional and ethical conduct of its members. The [ITCRA Code](#) is supported by [rules](#) for the resolution of disputes involving members. NOTE: The ITCRA Code and Dispute Resolution Rules do NOT constitute a recognised external dispute resolution scheme for the purposes of the APPs; but are primarily designed to regulate the good conduct of ITCRA members.

### How your complaint will be handled

When we receive your complaint:

- We will take steps to confirm the authenticity of the complaint and the contact details provided to us to ensure that we are responding to you or to a person whom you have authorised to receive information about your complaint;
- Upon confirmation we will write to you to acknowledge receipt and to confirm that we are handling your complaint in accordance with our policy.
- We may ask for clarification of certain aspects of the complaint and for further detail;
- We will consider the complaint and may make inquiries of people who can assist us to establish what has happened and why;

- 
- We will require a reasonable time (usually 30 days) to respond;
  - If the complaint can be resolved by procedures for [access and correction](#) we will suggest these to you as possible solutions;
  - If we believe that your complaint may be capable of some other solution we will suggest that solution to you, on a confidential and without prejudice basis in our response;

If the complaint cannot be resolved by means that we propose in our response we will suggest that you take your complaint to any recognised external dispute resolution scheme to which we belong or to the [Office of the Australian Information Commissioner](#).