

Keeping you in touch with the A24 Group

# CRB in England & Wales: now only 9 days to renew with A24 Connect!

Every candidate living and working in England and Wales will be able to apply for and renew their CRB check online following the release on Friday 9th September of the latest application update by our development team at A24 Group.

This new advance will speed up dramatically the turnaround of Criminal Records checks ensuring that all our agency medical staff remain compliant and able to work at all times.

The requirement by the NHS is that all agency workers must hold an enhanced disclosure that is less than 12 months old. But with current delays within the CRB system this has meant that some candidates have to re-apply four months early to ensure that they have a current CRB in their possession that at all times is less than 12 months old.



By logging onto A24Connect - our unique web portal that enables you to interact with us online - you will be prompted when your CRB is due for renewal and you will be able to complete the on-line application form.

All you need to do is to log on to www.a24connect.co.uk and follow the prompts to complete your online CRB application form. Once you have completed the form, you will be required to make an electronic payment via Paypal. Please note that the price for the CRB have now increased to £46.20.

Please note therefore that from September 9th we cannot accept any applications on the CRB printed forms, or accept cheques made out to

the CRB. If you still have to register with us, you will be required to bring all your original documentation to the interview as has been discussed.

If you have not yet activated your secure account on A24Connect you should do so by clicking on the activation link that has been sent to you by email. If you do not have this email please let us know -

researchers@a24group.com and we will resend this to you.

With A24Connect online you can update your availability, change your bank information, download timesheets, view your compliance status, manage your work history and references, provide feedback - and more.

#### **Agency Worker Directive**

In October 2011, the Agency Workers Directive and Regulations (AWD) become law in the UK. The AWD affects your rights to certain benefits but has no impact on your status as an agency worker. In order to cater for the changes we will shortly be circulating new Terms of Engagement, which outline how this new process will work. Please e-sign or physically sign the Terms and return them to us as soon as possible.

#### **Professional Indemnity**

It is essential that every healthcare professional who works outside of the NHS maintains professional indemnity cover at all times. Please ensure that you remember to keep us updated with any renewal documentation that you receive. Failure to provide us with details of your cover could mean that you no longer are offered shifts within private establishments.

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## Welcome

All of us in the A24 Group and its agencies are excited by the work of our busy IT team, with new service features for candidates - such as the facility to apply for CRBs online. We will continue to look at even better ways to improve the time it takes to register and deal with compliance.

In 2011, Sunita Mason published her 'common-sense approach' to criminal record checks in England. We are confident that many of these recommendations will be implemented, and we will of course update you as and when this happens.

Every healthcare professional who undertakes agency work knows that the compliance requirements for agency workers have become more and more burdensome - and many of these checks are duplicated at great expense and do not afford providers with any greater protection, in our experience.

We are therefore huge supporters of any process that may reduce any unnecessary burden. We welcome your thoughts and comments on this and you can feedback to us via www.a24connect.co.uk



Penny Streeter OBE Managing Director





www.a24connect.co.uk

#### NURSES AGENCIES



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### SOUTH AFRICA

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