Discretionary MSIC Issuing Process

Unsuccessful MSIC Application

Applicant contacts IB (at this stage applicant may provide information to strengthen their case) **OR** applicant lodges appeal application directly to the Department

If application is through an IB, the IB lodges the appeal with the Secretary of the Department

Department assess discretionary card application or seeks additional information from applicant through IB

OR directly through applicant

Discretionary MSIC Approved

Discretionary MSIC Refused

Notification sent to applicant and IB

Notification sent to applicant

Card is produced by IB and sent to applicant Applicant has option to lodge second appeal with Department (6.08X)

Discretionary MSIC Approved Discretionary MSIC Refused

Card is produced by IB and sent to applicant Applicant can lodge an appeal with the (AAT)

What are my other options?

If you are dissatisfied with the Secretary of the Department's decision, you may lodge a second request to the Department for further consideration **free of charge**.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your second request, you may appeal to the Australian Government's Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT).

Who do I contact?

Applications for discretionary cards can be mailed through your IB or directly to:

The Secretary
Attention: Identity Security Section
Department of Infrastructure and Transport
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Or emailed to: ID.Security@infrastructure.gov.au

If you require further information, please contact the Identity Security Section on:

Phone: (02) 6274 7748 Fax: (02) 6274 7097

More information is also available at: www.infrastructure.gov.au/transport/security/maritime

If you decide to lodge an appeal with the Administrative Appeals Tribunal:

Phone: (02) 6243 4611 Fax: (02) 6243 4600 Website: www.aat.gov.au



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Transport



Maritime Security Identification Card (MSIC)

Discretionary Cards

MARITIME SECURITY IDENTIFICATION CARD (MSIC)

If your application for an MSIC has been unsuccessful due to an adverse criminal record, you have the option of applying to the Department of Infrastructure and Transport for a discretionary MSIC.

What is a discretionary MSIC?

A discretionary MSIC may be issued to applicants who were unsuccessful in their initial MSIC application. This card can only be approved by the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) who takes into account the applicant's individual circumstances.

A discretionary MSIC may be subject to conditions, such as a reduced validity period.

How do I apply for one?

Either you or your Issuing Body (IB) can write a letter to the Secretary of the Department requesting a discretionary MSIC.

Who is my Issuing Body?

Your IB is the company or organisation that processed your original MSIC application.

How much does the process cost?

An application for a discretionary MSIC is **free of charge**.

How long does it take?

The Secretary of the Department will decide within 30 days to either:

- seek additional information from you (or your IB) regarding your circumstances; or
- approve or refuse your application.

If the secretary decides to seek additional information, the Secretary has an additional 30 days to make a decision from the day the information is received.

A letter will be sent to you advising of the Secretary's final decision.

What does the Secretary consider when making a decision?

In making the decision, the Secretary of the Department will take into consideration the following factors:

- the nature of the offence(s) you were convicted of:
- the term of imprisonment, if any, that was imposed (including a suspended sentence);
- the length of time actually served and the reason(s) for this:
- your history since the offence(s), such as your general conduct, employment history, rehabilitation, etc;
- whether you previously held an MSIC; and
- anything else relevant that the Secretary knows about.

What should I provide?

Although not compulsory, you may wish to provide some or all of the following information to strengthen your case and enable the Secretary of the Department to make a more informed decision:

- A letter from you outlining the circumstances of your conviction and any other information which may be relevant to your case;
- a written reference from your employer outlining your operational need for an MSIC (one that confirms your employer is aware of the conviction(s) that made you ineligible for an MSIC is preferable);
- written personal and/or professional references, (those that acknowledge your conviction(s) and subsequent rehabilitation are encouraged); and
- any other supporting material you wish to provide which may be relevant to your application (e.g. sentencing remarks).