

Our role - overview

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Our role

The Fair Work Ombudsman is an independent statutory office. Our jurisdiction is set out in the Fair Work Act and our services are free to all workers and employers in Australia.

Our main role is to:

- promote harmonious, productive and cooperative workplace relations
- ensure compliance with Australian workplace laws
- monitor certain 457 subclass visa arrangements.

Our free services include:

- a single point of contact for reliable and timely information about Australia's workplace relations system
- educating people working in Australia about fair work practices, rights and obligations
- assessing complaints or suspected breaches of workplace laws, awards and registered agreements
- litigating in some circumstances to enforce workplace laws and deter people from doing wrong in the community
- building strong and effective relationships with industry, unions and other stakeholders.

We work closely with the Fair Work Commission to ensure our services are integrated, timely, relevant and accessible to all Australians.

Source reference: *Fair Work Act 2009 (Cth)* section 682 

What to do next

- Read the [About the Fair Work Ombudsman fact sheet](#)

Change made on Nov 9 2015 to hyperlink in source reference to the Fair Work Act
from: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2014C00008/>
to https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2013C00070/Html/Volume_2#_Toc347402589.

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We work closely with the Fair Work Commission to ensure our services are integrated, timely, relevant and accessible to all Australians. Visit [The Fair Work Commission and us - what's the difference page](#) for information on how we differ from the Fair Work Commission.

Source reference: [Fair Work Act 2009 \(Cth\) section 682](#) 

What to do next

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Change made on Nov 12 2015 – Content added as per highlighted section in screen shot above.