



Update to Garda Vetting July 2025

There have been some important changes to the Garda National Vetting Bureau (“GNVB”) garda vetting processes and these changes aim to enhance the efficiency and strength of Child Safeguarding procedures.

These changes only apply in the Republic of Ireland

1 – INITIAL PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS

The National Vetting Bureau has circulated a new paper application form which is to be used from July 2025.

The required initial application form **MUST** be printed, completed and signed by the applicant, and includes the new ID validation form which is completed and signed by the ID validator (validators will be required to receive training from Mountaineering Ireland).

The new GNVB1 form; signed by the applicant & the validator, **AND** including the copies of the required ID must be posted to Mountaineering Ireland (no email applications will be accepted). The vetting process will not commence until the hard copies of the forms, correctly completed are received.

***electronic signatures are not acceptable**

2 - ID DOCUMENTATION

The list of identity documents accepted by the National Vetting Bureau have been streamlined and updated effective July 2025.

ALL applications will now be required to be accompanied by the acceptable documents as contained in this guidance: [Briefing Note – ID Documents](#)

What does this mean for me?

Any applications that submit incorrect documentation (documentation not listed in the briefing note) will be immediately rejected and returned to the applicant.

3 - UPDATED LEGISLATION

The European Criminal Records Information System (ECRIS), established in 2012, enables the secure exchange of criminal records across all EU member states. Each country has a designated Central Authority for Criminal Records, in Ireland, this is the Garda National Vetting Bureau.



As part of EU Directive 2011/93 (which only applies to offences against children), EU countries are now required to carry out enhanced police checks for sexual offences when processing vetting applications. These changes are being rolled out across the EU. As and from July 2025 all Garda Vetting applications must satisfy the terms of this directive.

What does this mean for me?

Applicants with declared addresses in the EU, England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland will be asked further questions by the NVB online application. See the guidance : [Briefing Note – GNVB online Form](#)

NB: Applications with addresses in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will now take at least **20 working days** to be returned.

Applications with addresses in the EU (ROI excepted) will now take at least **10 working days** to be returned.

Any application with a combination of addresses as above will take the longer of the two times to be returned.

It is important to keep these new timelines in mind when planning recruitment or vetting renewals.