



Update on Changes to Criminal and FBI Required Clearances

Two changes occurred this fall regarding Criminal and FBI clearances.

- The fee for the Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Check was increased to \$22 on December 1, 2017. Requests for this clearance with the purpose of volunteering remains free.
- The Commonwealth transitioned from using the vendor Cogent for FBI Criminal Background Checks to IDEMIA. The Identigo site locations, where you can be fingerprinted, can be found at www.indentogo.com/locations or by calling 844-321-2101. ●

Who Needs Clearances?

The following individuals must obtain clearances:

- An employee of child care services.
- A self-employed provider of child care services in a family child care home.
- An individual 14 years of age or older who is applying for or holding a paid position as an employee with a program, activity or service as a person responsible for the child's welfare or having direct contact with children.
- If the program, activity or service is an internship, externship, work-study, co-op or similar program, only an adult applying for or holding a paid position with an employer that participates in the internship, externship, work-study, co-op or similar program with a school and whom the employer and the school identify as the child's supervisor and the person responsible for the child's welfare while the child participates in the program with the employer must obtain the clearances.
- Any individual seeking to provide childcare services under contract with a child care facility or program.
- An individual 18 years of age or older who resides for at least 30 days in a calendar year in the following homes which are subject to SUPERVISION OR licensure by the department under Articles IX and X of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Public Welfare Code:
 - o A family living home.
 - o A community home for individuals with an intellectual disability.
 - o A host home for children.
 - o This does not include an individual with an intellectual disability or chronic psychiatric disability receiving services in a home.
- An individual who applies to the department for a certificate of compliance or a registration certificate to provide child day care in a residence shall include criminal history record and child abuse record information required under section 6344(b) for every individual 18 years of age or older who resides in the home for at least 30 days in a calendar year.
- A foster parent.
- A prospective adoptive parent.
- An individual 18 years of age or older who resides in the home of a foster parent for at least 30 days in a calendar year or who resides in the home of a prospective adoptive parent for at least 30 days in a calendar year.
- School Employees (Pursuant to the provision of Act 153 of 2014)
- Adult Volunteers with a child care service, a school or a program, activity or service responsible for the child's welfare or having direct volunteer contact with children.

Which clearances do they need?

- Report of criminal history from the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP);
- Child Abuse History Clearance from the Department of Human Services (Child Abuse); and
- Fingerprint-based federal criminal history submitted through the Pennsylvania State Police or its authorized agent (FBI)

For more information on clearances and mandated reporting of suspected child abuse, visit our website www.pa-fsa.org. ●