

PENNSYLVANIA STATE BACKGROUND CLEARANCES

(1) ACT 51 (CHILD ABUSE) BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance can be submitted online through the Child Welfare Information Solution (CWIS) self-service portal. FREE for volunteers.

Pennsylvania Child Welfare Information Solution - Compass

<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS>

(2) ACT 34 BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Pennsylvania State Police Criminal History Report can be obtained through the “Pennsylvania Access to Criminal History (PATCH) web site. Most of the time, “No Record” certificates are returned immediately upon request. FREE of charge.

Pennsylvania Access to Criminal History (PATCH) Web Site

<https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>

(3) ACT 114 FEDERAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS

Pennsylvania has changed to a new electronic fingerprinting vendor, IDEMIA, for FBI criminal history background checks. Here is the multiple-step process for applying:

- **You must register online prior to going to the fingerprint site. The registration website is www.identogo.com/locations/pennsylvania. You will be asked to enter a Service Code. Use the following code: 1KG6TR.** Upon entering the Non-Public Schools site you will choose “Schedule an Appointment” and complete the registration information.
- **Payment** – You have to pay the \$24.20 volunteer fee online by credit/debit card.
- **Fingerprint Locations** – After registration, you can go to the fingerprint site of your choice. The locations and hours of operation for each site are posted on IDEMIA’s website.
- **Fingerprinting** – At the fingerprint site the Enrollment Agents (EA) manage the fingerprint collection process. You will need to have one of the following identification documents with you: Driver’s License, U.S. Passport, or an ID card issued by a federal, state, or local government agency. Applicants will not be processed if they cannot produce an acceptable photo ID. After verification, all ten fingers are scanned to complete the process. The entire process should take no more than 3 to 5 minutes.
- **Report Access** – You will receive a receipt with a **UEID** that has to be returned to Cornerstone so an administrator can access the official report. You will receive an unofficial copy of the report.

Under Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Law, school volunteers who are responsible for the child's welfare or who have "direct volunteer contact" with children at a school (i.e., the care, supervision, guidance, or control of children and routine interaction with children) are required to have background clearances.