



# Frequently Asked Questions:

## CURRENT LEVEL 1 VOLUNTEERS

### 26-27 Clearinghouse Transition

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, all Pinellas County Schools volunteers must undergo **Level 2 background screening**. Current Level 1 volunteers have until **July 1, 2026** to complete this screening. Volunteers that choose not to complete the screening will be marked inactive and will not be eligible to volunteer until a Level 2 background screening is completed.

#### What is Level 2 clearance?

Level 2 clearance is a fingerprint-based background screening required by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Clearinghouse. It provides a higher level of security and constant monitoring.

#### Why is this change happening?

Pinellas County Schools is committed to creating the safest possible environment for students and staff. Level 2 clearance through the FDLE Clearinghouse ensures a more thorough screening process for all volunteers.

#### Can I still volunteer as a Level 1 volunteer in the 25-26 school year?

Yes, you may continue volunteering as a Level 1 volunteer until June 30, 2026 at the school's discretion.

#### When do I need to complete Level 2 clearance?

If you wish to volunteer in the 26-27 school year and beyond, you must complete fingerprinting by July 1, 2026. After this date, Level 1 volunteer status will no longer be valid.

#### How do I complete the fingerprinting process?

To complete the fingerprinting process, please follow these step-by-step instructions:

- Fill out the form at <http://tinyurl.com/level2information>
- Watch for an email from the Clearinghouse with instructions to fingerprint, including a list of LiveScan fingerprinting vendors. Fingerprint cost ranges from \$75- \$90 depending on vendor.
- Visit a LiveScan vendor for fingerprinting. Your picture will be taken during this appointment.

#### What happens if I don't obtain Level 2 clearance by July 1, 2026?

Your volunteer status will become **inactive**, and you will not be able to volunteer until Level 2 clearance is obtained.

## Where can I find LiveScan fingerprinting vendors?

The email you will receive from the Clearinghouse after filling out the form (<http://tinyurl.com/level2information>) will have a list of LiveScan fingerprinting vendors and instructions for scheduling your appointment.

You can also book a time to have your fingerprints scanned at the Pinellas County Schools Administration Building (301 4<sup>th</sup> St SW, Largo, FL 33770) by visiting [our PCS Bookings system.](#)

## How long do LiveScan fingerprints last?

Clearinghouse fingerprints provide Level 2 clearance for up to 5 years. You will need to get rescanned at the end of the 5 years in order to maintain Level 2 clearance.

## Is there a cost for fingerprinting?

Yes, there is a fee for fingerprinting services. The amount varies by vendor but is typically within the range of \$75 - \$90.

## Who do I contact if there is a financial hardship that prevents me from paying for fingerprinting?

Contact the Office of Strategic Partnerships at 727-588-6405 for assistance.

## Once I have been fingerprinted by a LiveScan vendor, what are my next steps?

Processing and application of fingerprints to your Pinellas County Schools volunteer account can take up to 2 weeks. Please check your account at [volunteer.pcsb.org](http://volunteer.pcsb.org) regularly beginning a week after your fingerprinting appointment to see if your volunteer status has been updated.

Once your status has been updated, the last step in the Level 2 process is to receive your Level 2 badge. Level 2 badges must be worn by volunteers at all times on PCS campuses and at PCS events.

## How do I receive a Level 2 badge once I have obtained Level 2 volunteer status?

To receive your free Level 2 badge, please call one of the locations listed below to make an appointment. During your appointment, you will need to access your volunteer account at [volunteer.pcsb.org](http://volunteer.pcsb.org) or provide a screenshot that shows your updated Level 2 status and Level 2 expiration date.

- **Clearwater Adult Education Center:** 727-469-5817
- **PTC Clearwater:** 727-538-7167 x 2114
- **Walter Pownall Service Center:** 727-547-7100
- **Clearview Adult Education Center:** 727-221-5395
- **PTC St. Petersburg:** 727-893-2500 x 2330