Obtaining publicly available clearances can take several weeks for processing. You will be required to show proof of clearances prior to beginning work or volunteering. Please plan accordingly.

**Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Background Check (SP4-164)**

The Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Background Check can be completed through online submission OR by mailing in a paper copy. *Online submission is a much quicker process and is highly recommended, when possible.*

*NOTE: Paper submission is the only option for international applicants (see directions for paper submission below).*

**Directions for on-line submission (you will be required to pay the $22 fee by credit card):**

1. Go to [https://epatch.state.pa.us](https://epatch.state.pa.us).
2. Under “Credit Card Users” select “Submit a New Record Check”
3. Review and Accept “Terms and Conditions”
4. Enter your personal information and the address to which you would like any records sent.
5. Under “Reason for Request” select either “Employment/Screening” or “Volunteer,” whichever is applicable.
6. On the next screen, enter all personal information.
7. Select “Enter This Request” and your request will be sent to a queue.
8. Select “View Queued Record Requests” and then “Submit” to pay the $22.00 fee.
9. Print the “No Record” certificate. *NOTE: You must print or save the certificate.* Once viewed, you will have no further access to the certificate.

10. If you receive a “Request under Review” response, check the PATCH website periodically for updates to the request. It can take anywhere from a few days to a few weeks for the “Request under Review” status to be updated. If a record is found, it will be mailed to the address provided.

**Directions for paper submission (you will be required to pay the $22 fee by money order):**

1. Go to [http://www.dhs.state.pa.us](http://www.dhs.state.pa.us).
2. Go to left hand column and click on "Find a Form"
3. Enter the Publication/Form Title:
4. Select "Find a Form", then select the link that appears:
5. Pennsylvania State Police Request for Criminal Record Check Form SP 4-164
6. Print the form and complete required information.
7. Note: Check the block for “INDIVIDUAL/NONCRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCY”
8. Note: Under Reason for Request select “Employment/Screening” or “Volunteer”, whichever is applicable.
9. Enclose a $10.00 certified check or money order payable to "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania"
10. Mail form and payment to address on form.
11. Note: It can take up to 4 weeks to receive results.
Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance Form (CY-113)

The Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance can be completed through online submission OR by mailing in a paper application. *Online submission is a much quicker process and is highly recommended, when possible.*

Directions for on-line submission (you will be required to pay the $8 fee by credit card):

- Go to: [https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home](https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home)
- Select “Create New Account”
- Select “Next” at the bottom right of the page
- Complete the Keystone ID Registration
- Check your e-mail for Keystone ID and password confirmation (2 separate e-mails)
- Return to: [https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home](https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home)
- Select “LOGIN”
- Select “Access My Clearances”
- Scroll to the bottom and select “Continue”
- Use your Keystone ID and temporary password to login.
- Upon initial login, you will be required to change your password.
- Return to: [https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home](https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home)
- Login using Keystone ID and new password.
- Review and Accept “Terms and Conditions” and select “Next”
- Select “Continue” at the bottom right of the page.
- Select “Create Clearance Application”
- Select “Begin” at the bottom right of the page.
- Application Purpose: Select “Volunteer” or “Regular Contact with Child”
- Complete application information screens and select “Next” at bottom right of each page.
- Review Application Summary and select “Next”
- Certify application and provide e-signature (first and last name only, no middle names or suffixes).
- Enter credit card payment information for $8.00 and select “Pay Now”
- Select “Finalize and Submit Application”
- You will see an “Application Confirmation” screen
- You will receive an e-mail confirming successful submission of your application.

Notification of clearance results will be e-mailed to you within 14 days, or you may log in at any time to check the status of your application: [https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home](https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home)
Directions for paper submission (you will be required to pay the $8 fee by money order):

Go to: [http://www.dhs.state.pa.us](http://www.dhs.state.pa.us).

Go to the right hand column and click on Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance Form CY-113.

Print the form and complete Section I only. All information must be completed in full and form must be signed. (Note: For Purpose of Clearance select either “Volunteer” or “Employment with a significant likelihood of regular contact with children”, whichever is applicable.)

Enclose a $8.00 money order (only) payable to "Department of Human Services" and mail to the address on form.

Detailed instructions on how to complete the form are also included at the bottom of the CY-113 form.

*Note: Notification of clearance results can take up to 14 days after application is received by the Department of Human Services.*

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK INSTRUCTIONS**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services utilizes IDEMIA to process fingerprint-based FBI criminal background checks. The fingerprint based background check is a multiple step process. For questions about your FBI clearance, please contact the FBI Background Check Unit at 717-783-6211 or 1-877-371-5422.

Appointments to be fingerprinted are not required, but pre-registration is required. Once registered, you may walk-in during a location’s posted hours of operation, but scheduling an appointment may lead to lesser/no wait times. Please see the instructions below to pre-register for a FBI background check and/or find a fingerprinting location.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Payment is required at the appointment. There is no option to pay ahead of time. The options include Business Check, Money Order, or Credit Card. This means that most individuals will need to pay out-of-pocket for their FBI clearance and will need to submit the required paperwork, (including the receipt provided at the time of fingerprinting service) for reimbursement. The Registration confirmation letter will not be permitted to use as evidence of payment.

**Directions for on-line submission**

**Step 1**
Go to: [https://uenroll.identogo.com/](https://uenroll.identogo.com/)

**Step 2**
**Employees:** Enter Code 1KG756 (this will take you to the form for DHS – Employee >= 14 years contact with children)

**Volunteers:** Enter Code 1KG6ZJ (this will take you to the form for Pennsylvania DHS - Volunteer)

**Step 3**
Select “Schedule or Manage Appointment”

**Step 4**
Complete all Sections of the Form

**Step 5**
Submit

**Step 6**
You will receive an email confirming your registration and confirmation of appointment time and location.

**Step 7**
Report to the IdentoGO location identified in the confirmation letter. **IMPORTANT!** Do not forget to bring the required documents (as outlined in the confirmation letter) to confirm your identity.

**Step 8**
Payment is required at the appointment. There is no option to pay ahead of time. The options include Business Check, Money Order, and Credit Card. The cost of the FBI Clearance obtained through the Department of Human Services is **$22.60**.

To find an updated list of IdentoGO Locations: [https://www.identogo.com/locations](https://www.identogo.com/locations)