

NEW CHILD PROTECTION LAWS IN PA AS OF JULY 1, 2015

Volunteers requiring Clearances are those “acting in lieu of a parent” or having direct contact where they provide care, supervision, guidance or control of children or have routine interaction with children.

Beginning July 1, 2015 all adults 18 years and older applying for an unpaid position as a volunteer responsible for the welfare of a child and having direct contact with children, must have clearances that include:

PA Child Abuse History clearance (\$10) www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis

PA State Police Criminal Records check (\$10) <https://epatch.state.pa.us>

FBI Criminal Background Check (\$30) www.pa.cogentid.com/index.pde.htm

(FBI Criminal Background Check is needed if you have not been a continuous resident of PA for 10 years)

Volunteers not requiring an FBI check, who have been a continuous resident of PA for the last 10 years must affirm in writing that they have no convictions that would disqualify them and include addresses you have lived at for the past 10 years.

All three clearances are required for a paid position, age 14 or older, responsible for the welfare of a child or having direct contact with children (Referee, Trainers, Camp Staff, Etc.)

Volunteers between the ages 4-17 are not required to have clearances.

Clearances are required prior to the commencement of service.

Clearances are good for 36 months. They are portable and may be used with other organizations.

For more information go to www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov

The cost of the Clearances are the responsibility of the individual.

Child Abuse and Criminal Records clearances may be obtained online. The FBI Fingerprint Clearance requires online registration prior to a personal appearance at a fingerprinting location. (UPS Store 208 Eagle Valley Mall East Stroudsburg, PA 18301 570-420-1101)

Copies of all Clearance documents must be received by WESL prior to volunteering. Below are links to the Clearances.

PA State Criminal Record Check <https://epatch.state.pa.us>

PA Child Abuse History Clearance www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis

FBI Fingerprint www.pa.cogentid.com/index.pde.htm