



State of Pennsylvania Comprehensive Background Checks

As of December 31, 2014, Pennsylvania [Act 153 of 2014](#) requires that **volunteers** who have direct contact and care for children must obtain two to three clearances which are then valid for 36 months (3 years).

The background checks include:

Required for ALL VOLUNTEERS-

1. [Criminal History Record Information](#) obtained from the Pennsylvania State Police (\$10 fee)
2. [Child Abuse Clearance](#) obtained through the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services certifying the applicant is not named in the statewide database "as the alleged perpetrator in a pending child abuse investigation or as the perpetrator of a founded report or indicated report" of child abuse." (\$10 fee)

May be Required-

3. [Federal Criminal History Record Information](#) obtained by submitting a full set of fingerprints to Cogent Systems for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. (\$27.50 fee)

Volunteers are not required to complete the federal criminal history check (#3) if they have lived continuously in Pennsylvania over the previous 10 years and are working an unpaid position. However, they must swear or affirm in writing that they are not barred from volunteering due to a conviction or offense under [§6344\(c\)](#).

All three background checks are initiated online by the volunteer. As the law stands now, a volunteer must complete new background checks for each place they volunteer. Volunteers cannot use existing clearances to begin volunteering with a new entity, even though the certificates are valid for three years.

ACTION ITEMS FOR ALL MANAGERS, COACHES, AND ASSISTANTS-

2016 Requirements for all MLGSA Managers/Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches-

- Submit a request for the Criminal History Record Information and the Child Abuse Clearance information from the PA State Police and PA Department of Human Services (see links in 1 and 2 above).
- If the volunteer has not been a PA resident for each of the last 10 years, then also complete a request for the Federal Criminal History Record Information (see link in 3 above)
- Forward an unaltered scanned image of these clearances along with a sworn statement that "I am not barred from volunteering due to a conviction or offense under [§6344\(c\)](#)." (see Act 153 Volunteer Affidavit following this page) to MLGSA@lebosoftball.org.