



OFFICE FOR CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

ARCHDIOCESE OF
PHILADELPHIA

Safe Environment Requirements – Volunteers

Volunteers who may have any possible contact with children must also obtain background checks. All background checks and clearances must be obtained **prior** to beginning work/service. Minors under the age of 18 who are volunteering are NOT required to obtain background checks.

Background Check and Clearance Requirements as follows:

All three clearances and/or forms must be renewed every 5 years (60 months).

1. Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Background Check - <https://epatch.pa.gov/home>
2. Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance - <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
Plus #3 OR #4 below depending on residency.
3. Federal Fingerprint Background Check (FBI)
 - *If not Pennsylvania resident for 10 continuous years*
<https://uenroll.identogo.com> for information on codes please visit:
<https://childyouthprotection.org>
4. Disclosure Statement Application for Volunteers (separate document)
 - *If Pennsylvania resident for 10 continuous years*

Provisional Volunteers:

- No provisional status for Pennsylvania residents
- Volunteers who reside in another state or country may serve on a provisional basis for no more than 30 days while the Pennsylvania State Police, the Department of Public Welfare, and/or the FBI are processing the background checks, so long as they provide clearances from their state or country of residence.

Training Requirements are as follows:

All church personnel and volunteers who have regular contact with children must complete the following training:

1. Safe Environment Part I: Protecting God's Children
 - *To register or post-register please go to www.VIRTUS.org*
2. Safe Environment Part II: Mandatory Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse
 - *Must be completed on-line through the OCYP website at www.childyouthprotection.org under "Training Institute".*

Minors under the age of 18 are not permitted to complete the training.

For more information, please visit <https://childyouthprotection.org> or call 215-587-2466.