

FEDERAL CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has changed to a new electronic fingerprinting vendor, IDEMIA, for Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) criminal history background checks.

APPLICANT PROCEDURES

All applicants will receive an unofficial copy of their report. **Fee: \$26.20 - payable to MorphoTrust**

The fingerprint-based background check is a multiple-step process, as follows:

1. **Registration** - The applicant must register prior to going to the fingerprint site. Walk in service is allowed but all applicants are required to complete pre-enrollment in the new Universal Enrollment system. Pre-enrollment can be completed online or over the phone. The registration website is available online 24 hours/day, seven days/week at <https://uenroll.identogo.com>. Telephonic registration is available at 1-844-321-2101 Monday through Friday, 8am to 6pm EST. During the pre-enrollment process, all demographic data for the applicant is collected (name, address, etc.) along with notices about identification requirements and other important information.

When registering on-line, an applicant **must** use the appropriate agency specific Service Code to ensure they are processed for the correct agency and/or applicant type. **The specific service code for School Districts is 1KG6XN.** Using the correct service code ensures the background check is submitted for the correct purpose. Fingerprint requests processed through any other agency or purpose cannot be accepted and are not transferrable. If an applicant enters the wrong code by mistake, the incorrect applicant type will appear at the top of the screen. The applicant should select the "Back to Home" button and begin the process again, by reentering the correct Service Code. If the applicant proceeds with the process under the incorrect code, the pre-enrollment and/or results cannot be transferred to another state agency and the applicant will have to start the process over and pay for the background check again.

2. **Payment** - The applicant will pay a **fee of \$26.20** for the fingerprint service and to secure an unofficial copy of the Criminal History Record. Major Credit Cards as well as Money orders or cashier's checks payable to **MorphoTrust** will be accepted on site for those applicants who are required to pay individually. No cash transactions or personal checks are allowed.
3. **Fingerprint Locations** – After registration, the applicant proceeds to the fingerprint site of their choice for fingerprinting. The location of the fingerprint sites and days and hours of operation for each site are posted on IDEMIA's website at <https://uenroll.identogo.com>. The location of fingerprint sites may change over time; applicants are encouraged to confirm the site location nearest to their location.
4. **Fingerprinting** - At the fingerprint site, the Enrollment Agents (EA) manage the fingerprint collection process. The fingerprint transaction begins when the EA reviews the applicant's qualified State or Federal photo ID before processing the applicant's transaction. A list of approved ID type may be found on the IDEMIA website at <https://uenroll.identogo.com>. Applicants will not be processed if they cannot produce an acceptable photo ID. After the identity of the applicant has been established, all ten fingers are scanned to complete the process. The entire fingerprint capture process should take no more than three to five minutes.
5. **Report Access** – For the public or private school or higher education institution to access the official report via the electronic system, applicants must present their **UEID (Universal**

Enrollment ID) to the hiring entity (as shown on the receipt provided after fingerprint capture). This process allows an applicant to provide multiple potential employers with their **UEID**, as the report is linked to the UEID number and not assigned to a specific school. If an applicant has lost their receipt or needs to confirm UEID, the applicant may visit the UEP website (<https://uenroll.identogo.com/>) and simply check status of their file by providing alternate personal information. Applicants will enter their personal information after clicking in the lower portion of that screen to obtain their receipt with the UEID.

Applicants will receive an unofficial copy of their report. However, the school is **required to review the official CHRI (Criminal History Record Information) online** and print a file copy of the CHRI if the applicant is hired by the school or their contractor, or if the applicant is approved for student teaching.

FINGERPRINT PROCESSING AND STORAGE

The applicant's scanned fingerprints and registration information will be electronically transmitted by IDEMIA via IDEMIA's approved channeling process directly to the FBI. The fingerprints are run against the FBI database, and the report is sent directly from the FBI back to IDEMIA. Currently, IDEMIA maintains the reports for **five years** from the date of the report on a secure server (accessible by authorized representatives). After five years, the reports are destroyed. Neither PDE or the FBI or IDEMIA stores an applicant's fingerprints. If an applicant is required to obtain a new report, the applicant must be fingerprinted again in order to obtain the report.

FINGERPRINT CORRECTIONS AND RESUBMISSIONS

In some cases, a classifiable fingerprint record cannot be obtained. Immediately upon indication, IDEMIA will take corrective action to notify the applicant of the need to re-print the applicant at no cost to the applicant. This corrective action will be completed at the earliest possible time that is convenient for the applicant. IDEMIA will contact the applicant directly via email should a re-print be necessary. NOTE: Reprinting can be applied to each applicant one time only.

If the applicant's fingerprints are unable to be transmitted electronically by IDEMIA to the FBI a second time, the applicant will be notified that a "name check" process will be instituted. The name check is a manual review of records completed by the FBI, with the results being sent to PDE. Upon receipt of name check results from the FBI, PDE mails a letter directly to the applicant. The letter contains the applicant's name check results and may be presented to schools in lieu of the electronic report. This process takes 4 – 6 weeks; please allow ample time for fingerprinting.

SCHOOL ENTITY PROCEDURES: CHRI ACCESS AND REVIEW

Administrators of approved school entities will have access to review the official report of the applicant online through a secure website. To allow the school to review an applicant's CHRI report, the applicant must provide the UEID. The CHRI that is available for review online constitutes the **official record**.