

Background Clearance Process

A state law effective 12/31/2014 requires us to update all our background clearances for anyone who cares for or has direct contact with children under age 18. All employees aged 14 and older and all volunteers age 18 and older are required to have clearances before they can work with child. Clearances must be updated every five years to remain effective. *Note: You only need to complete this process once to cover all ministry areas at MPC.*

Obtaining clearances is now a three-step process that must be completed by each individual:

- Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Check
- Child Abuse History Clearance from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
- FBI fingerprint check (not required for volunteers who have lived in the state for 10 years)

MPC will reimburse employees and volunteers for the cost of obtaining the necessary clearances. There are two options:

- The individual pays for the clearances and requests reimbursement when submitting the clearances (total cost for employees is approximately \$50; PA clearances are free for volunteers and the FBI check is approximately \$30).
- The individual schedules a time with the departmental representative to complete the clearances online at the church, and charges will be paid on a church credit card.

Volunteers who are willing to cover the cost may choose to make a donation marked “Child Abuse Clearances” and receive a tax-deductible credit or just not request reimbursement.

Pennsylvania Criminal History Check

Go to the PA State Police website: <https://epatch.pa.gov>.

- Select New Record from the Record Check tab and follow the instructions through to the Certification Page. Volunteers: be sure to click on the yellow box where it says, “Volunteers Only.”
- When the Search Results Table appears, write down the Control Number for future reference or print the page. Click on the Control Number to go to Record Check Details. **This page is only a receipt, not your official clearance.** Print the receipt, if needed. Note: there is no charge for volunteers.
- Click on Certification Form to access your official clearance and print the page. **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP!**

Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance

You may apply for your PA Child Abuse Clearance online at <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS>.

You must create a log in, and then you will receive an email with your Keystone ID and a temporary password. Return to the website, and scroll through the pages until you get to the log on page. (Note: your Keystone ID is your username.) Enter the information from the e-mail, then you will be prompted to create a permanent password. After that, follow the procedure on screen to complete the application. Church Staff should use either “School Employment” or “Child Care Worker” as the purpose for application. Volunteers can use the “Volunteer” option. You will need all your past addresses since 1975 plus the name, relationship, and age of everyone you have lived with since then. Be sure to print the payment page **before** hitting the final submission button; you will not have an option to print a receipt afterwards. Note: there is no charge for volunteers. Once you have submitted all of the information, the clearance papers will be sent by mail. You will also receive an email allowing you to log on and print them yourself.

FBI Fingerprint Check

All employees are required to have fingerprints taken. Volunteers are also required to have their prints checked unless they have been continuous residents of Pennsylvania for the last ten years and have not been convicted of an offense under Section 6344. Those volunteers are exempt if they sign a document attesting to this (see submission form on the next page).

To begin the process, you must register by going to <http://uenroll.identogo.com>.

- Enter the Service Code **1KG6ZJ** if you are a volunteer
- Enter the Service Code **1KG756** if you are an employee

During the registration process applicants will be asked for an email address and will be asked to create a security question and a security answer. It is very important that once the user creates the security question and answer that you retain this information. Three unsuccessful logins will prevent the applicant from retrieving their results electronically. In order to prevent any unauthorized release of information, their security information cannot be reset.

Begin with Schedule or Manage an Appointment; follow up with What to Bring to an Appointment; and finally, Locate an Enrollment Center. The most convenient centers to the church are:

IdentoGO
UPS Store
4885 McKnight Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Monday - Friday: 11:20 AM - 4:20 PM

IdentoGO
3000 Stonewood Dr
Suite 100
Wexford, PA 15090
Monday-Friday: 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
& 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Be sure to verify their hours of operation, because this information often changes without us being aware.

Your fingerprints will be electronically submitted. Shortly after your fingerprints have been taken and a result can be provided, you will receive an email advising you to click on the link within the email and enter the security question and answer. If you lock yourself out of the system, the result will be transmitted by US Mail. Current mailing timelines take 7-10 business days to reach the intended destination, but this may be longer during busy times. When you access the results, it is important that you be able to download it, save it and print it for future needs. There will be no second access to this electronic result. If you have not received your report, contact 1-855-845-7434 to follow-up.

Note: Minors who do not have a drivers license or a passport will be required to present the Pennsylvania Photo ID Waiver for Minors and alternative identification documents as listed on the waiver. See the link below to access the waiver form:

http://www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c_268106.pdf

Submitting Clearances

When you have all required clearances, use the form on the next page to submit them to the church business office. For new employees, these should be submitted as part of your employment packet. We have to receive official copies of all clearances. If you have done your clearances through another organization that has the originals, they must print a copy and sign off that they hold the original. Note that receipts are NOT the same as the official clearances.

Remember: for new employees and volunteers, these must be submitted BEFORE you have any contact with children at Memorial Park Church.

Do NOT submit until your packet is complete. We cannot accept partial submissions.



Memorial Park EPC

Love People. Know Jesus. Live Transformed.

Submission of Background Clearances

Please do not submit until you have ALL required clearances.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Employee Volunteer Support Services

Ministry: _____

I am submitting the following clearances:

- Pennsylvania Criminal History Check
 - Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance
 - FBI Fingerprint Check
- } Required of **all** employees and volunteers over age 17
- } Required of **all** employees and some volunteers
- I am exempt from the FBI fingerprint check because (1) I am a volunteer, (2) I have been a resident of Pennsylvania for the last 10 years, AND (3) I have not been convicted of an offense under Section 6344.

Reimbursement:

- I am not requesting reimbursement.
- I am requesting reimbursement in the amount of \$ _____
(attach receipts if requesting reimbursement)
- I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____
(attach check and mark "Child Abuse Clearances" on the memo line)

I swear and avow that the information provided for my clearances and on this form is true and complete.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Received by: _____ Date: _____

Clearances Received:

- Pennsylvania Criminal History Check – Date: _____
- Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance – Date: _____
- FBI Fingerprint Check – Date: _____
- FBI Fingerprint Waiver

Reimbursement:

- Not requested
- Paid on church credit card
- Requested – receipts received, voucher submitted
- Donation received – deposit recorded