
DHS Issues Guidance for Individuals Needing FBI Background Checks Under CPSL During COVID-19 Emergency

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has released guidance for individuals needing FBI criminal history background checks while counties are operating under stay-at-home orders. The guidance applies only to the background check requirements under the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL).

Under [Act 18 of 2020](#), individuals who are required to obtain an FBI background check are given additional time to meet this requirement if they are unable to complete their fingerprinting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Act 18 applies to individuals who are subject to [Section 6344](#) of the CPSL, including new applicants and those seeking recertification under [Section 6344.4](#). DHS' frequently asked questions on the law, including a required disclosure statement, are available [here](#).

It is important to note that Act 18 does not affect the background checks required by the Older Adult Protective Service Act. The [Department of Aging has issued guidance](#) relating to those requirements during the COVID-19 emergency, which remain largely the same as the requirements pre-COVID-19.