

Q. Why is the university requiring criminal background checks prior to participating in activities involving minors?

The university is committed to promoting the well-being and safety of children who participate in university programs or activities and in programs that outside organizations deliver on campus. Criminal background checks may reveal prior convictions that would make it inappropriate for someone to participate in a program or activity with minors.

Additionally, On October 22, 2014 House Bill 435 (PN 4225) was signed into law becoming Act 153 of 2014. Act 153 of 2014 requires comprehensive criminal and child abuse background checks to all employees “responsible for the welfare of a child or having direct contact with children.” This new PA law extends beyond paid employees so that it is applicable to those unpaid volunteers as well.

Q. What background checks are required for individuals who are responsible for the care, supervision, guidance, and control of children or have routine interaction with children?

In addition to any of the background checks required based upon position, job responsibilities or services, individuals responsible for the care, supervision, guidance or control of children or routine interaction with

Q. I am operating a program involving minors. How do I arrange for background checks for my staff?

The Human Resources Department oversees the processing of criminal background checks for university programs and activities. More information concerning how to request background checks and their cost can be found at their website.

Q. What is a “Required Reporter”?

Required Reporters, as defined in 23 Pa. Cons. Stat. § 6303, are considered persons who, in the course of their