

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENT
FOR
GRANTEES & CONTRACTORS PROVIDING SERVICES TO
DWS CUSTOMERS, MINORS AND/OR VULNERABLE ADULTS

A. All Contractors/Sub-Contractors and Grantees/Sub-Grantees (collectively referred to herein as “Contractors”) must obtain an **annual** Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) Utah criminal background check for all of their employees and volunteers who have access to DWS customer confidential information. In addition, if the Contractor’s primary customers are minors or vulnerable adults, the Contractor must obtain an **annual** fingerprint-based national criminal history record check for all employees and volunteers who provide direct services to or have direct access to minors and/or vulnerable adults.

B. This policy does not apply to Contractors who are required by law or by another governmental entity to obtain background checks. In such cases, the Contractor shall provide DWS with a description of the background check policy (type of check, who is required to be checked, and frequency) and proof of compliance with such law(s), regulation(s) or requirements.

C. Definitions

- “Confidential information” includes but is not limited to: personal identifying information, medical/clinical/counseling records, financial records, case information, etc.
- “Direct service” means providing services to a DWS customer, minor, and/or vulnerable adult when the services are rendered in the physical presence of the DWS customer, minor, and/or vulnerable adult or in a location where the person rendering services has access to the physical presence of the DWS customer, minor and/or vulnerable adult. Services include, but are not limited to: providing individual services such as counseling, mentoring, job coaching, training, job search activities, testing and/or providing mental health and medical services to DWS customers. See Utah Code Ann. 62A-5-101(6).
- “Direct access” means that an individual has, or likely will have, contact with or access to a minor or vulnerable adult that provides the individual with an opportunity for personal communication or touch. See Utah Code Ann. 62A-2-101(8).
- “Minor” means any person under the age of 18.

- “Vulnerable adult” means an elder adult, or an adult 18 years of age or older who has a mental or physical impairment including mental illness, mental deficiency, physical illness or disability, chronic use of drugs, chronic intoxication, short-term memory loss, or other cause which substantially affects that person's ability to:
 - provide personal protection;
 - provide necessities such as food, shelter, clothing, or medical or other health care;
 - obtain services necessary for health, safety, or welfare;
 - carry out the activities of daily living;
 - manage the adult's own resources; or
 - comprehend the nature and consequences of remaining in a situation of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. See Utah Code Ann. 76-5-111(1)(s).

D. Background checks shall be obtained according the Contractor’s qualifications per Utah statute:

- If the Contractor meets the requirements to request Utah criminal history information under Utah Code Annotated 53-10-102(19), 53-10-108(1)(b) and (g) and the National Child Protection Act (Public Law 105-251, 42 USC 5119a) (working with children and vulnerable adults and/or fiduciary funds, national security, or under other statutory authority) then the Contractor must be or become certified as a Qualified Entity by the Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification and obtain Utah and fingerprint-based national criminal history record checks through the BCI.
- If the Contractor does not meet the statutory requirements referenced above, then the Contractor shall require their employee/volunteer to contact the BCI and follow the BCI procedures to obtain their own Utah and national fingerprint-based national criminal history record checks.
- BCI information can be found at <http://publicsafety.utah.gov/bci/>.

E. Contractor shall be responsible for all fees associated with the background check unless otherwise assigned to the individual by the Contractor, or otherwise provided for by DWS herein.

F. Contractor must immediately notify DWS if an employee/volunteer’s record shows criminal history.

G. DWS may restrict or prohibit an individual from accessing confidential information, providing direct customer service, or having direct access to a minor and/or vulnerable adult until a valid criminal background check is completed or in the event the background check indicates:

- convictions or a plea in abeyance involving such offenses as theft, illegal drug use and/or trafficking, fraud, sexual offenses, lewdness, domestic violence, assault, battery, identity theft, any felony, any class A misdemeanor, or any other conduct or action that may, in the judgment of DWS, create a risk of harm to a DWS customer, minor, and/or vulnerable adult and/or suggests the individual is at risk for compromising confidential information.

H. It is the Contractor's responsibility to prevent direct services or direct access to minors and/or vulnerable adults by employees or volunteers whose criminal history record shows any of the following offenses:

- Any matters involving an alleged sexual offense.
- Any matters involving an alleged felony or class "A" misdemeanor drug offense.
- Any matters involving an alleged "crime against the person" under Utah Code 76- 5-101 et seq.

I. For each individual subject to this policy, the Contractor shall keep the annual and verifiable background check on file. Verification that background check has been performed must be made available to DWS upon request.

J. DWS may terminate this Agreement in the event the Contractor fails to complete and maintain records of background checks for staff members in a manner consistent with this policy.