

# **Ockanickon Scout Reservation – Washington Crossing Council Summer Camp Leader Background Check Information**

There are two regulations impacting adult leaders that stay at camp:

- PA Act 153 of 2014 and PA Act 15 of 2015
- Boy Scouts of America requirement effective June 2018 for all persons residing in camp to be registered with their unit and completed Youth-protection-training (YPT)

## **BSA Registration requirement**

Effective June 2018, all adults staying at Camp Ockanickon are required to be registered on their unit's charter, undergo the BSA criminal background check (CBC) and have current youth-protection-training (YPT).

### **Compliance verification**

Camp Ockanickon allows several methods to verify compliance with this requirement

- 1) Bring an unexpired unit registration card and a current YPT training certificate for each adult on the roster.
- 2) From [my.scouting.org](http://my.scouting.org), print your unit's "YPT Aging Report." This report shows every adult on your charter and includes the YPT valid through date. For instructions on how to obtain this report, contact your local council registrar.
- 3) Use either "YPT Clearance form for Camp PA resident" or "YPT Clearance form for Camp – non PA" as appropriate. List all adults coming to camp. The primary unit's contact should sign the form. The form is then submitted to your local council's registrar who will verify the information and sign it.

These documents may be brought to camp or submitted in advance to [logistics@ockanickon.org](mailto:logistics@ockanickon.org)

**NO ADULT WILL BE PERMITTED TO STAY OVERNIGHT WITHOUT BEING IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE.**

## **PA ACT 153 and ACT 15 background clearances**

### **Clearances are NOT required for:**

Program participants over the age of 18, including Venturers, Explorers, or Scouts who have approval to register beyond the age of eligibility.

### **What if I live out-of-state?**

This circumstance is applicable to many of our camp leaders. The laws do make a provision for camp leaders that **reside** out-of-state. The laws state that out-of-state camp leaders that would otherwise be required to obtain clearances are exempt from obtaining the clearances, provided that they work with children in the state of Pennsylvania for 30 days or less in a given calendar year. All adult leaders will be required to sign an affidavit stating they are compliant with their local laws and have not been convicted of any of the crimes listed on the affidavit.

**If you work with children in the state of Pennsylvania for more than 30 days in a calendar year in a capacity that would otherwise require you to obtain clearances, you must obtain the clearances.**

Note that this exemption is based on your residency, and not your volunteerism location. Therefore, if you are a volunteer that works with a New Jersey unit but resides in Pennsylvania, you must obtain the clearances.

## **What clearances are needed?**

Depending on the individual, adults may be required to obtain up to three clearances. The three clearances are as follows:

### **1. Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Background Check**

All adults residing in Pennsylvania shall be required to obtain a **[criminal background check run by the Pennsylvania State Police](#)**. This background check is free to all volunteers as of July 25, 2015.

Visit <https://epatch.state.pa.us/>


### **2. Pennsylvania Department of Human Services Child Abuse Clearance**

All adults residing in Pennsylvania shall be required to obtain a **[child abuse clearance from the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services](#)**. This background check is free to all volunteers as of July 25, 2015.

Visit <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>

### 3. Federal Bureau of Investigation Fingerprint-Based Background Check

Adults who reside in Pennsylvania and have lived in the state for less than ten consecutive years (including the current year) must obtain a fingerprint-based FBI Background Check. Adults who have lived in the state of Pennsylvania **for the last ten consecutive years** are exempt from this check, but **must complete an affidavit** affirming such: [PA Volunteer Disclosure Statement](#)

- Visit <https://www.identogo.com/locations/pennsylvania> 
- Click on **“Digital Fingerprinting.”** On the next screen, **enter the Service Code, which is: 1KG6ZJ.**
- Click on **Schedule or Manage Appointment.**
- Click on **Locate an Enrollment Center first** to find the location for providing your fingerprints that is closest to you, then go back to the **Schedule an Appointment option.** The company is continuing to add new fingerprinting locations.
- **Follow the prompts for completing the required information and printing the registration form to take to the fingerprinting location.**

### How do I submit the clearances?

The council and individual units must maintain records of clearances, which are valid for 60 months from the date of issue. There are some very key provisions regarding the clearances for summer camp:

- Each unit must bring copies of all required clearances upon check-in at camp
- A signed affidavit is required for all adults who reside in Pennsylvania and are exempt from the FBI fingerprint check
- A signed affidavit is required for all adults who reside out-of-state
- The laws provide for the acceptance of copies for volunteer purposes
- Submit clearances in advance by emailing to [logistics@ockanickon.org](mailto:logistics@ockanickon.org)

### What if I have more questions?

Please direct any further questions to Todd Warner at:  
[todd.warner@scouting.org](mailto:todd.warner@scouting.org) or camp: 215-297-5290; Scout office: 215-348-7205