

FINAL RESULTS — IOWA DAY CARE SURVEY



SEARCH

The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics

TO: Members, SEARCH Membership Group

FR: Eric Johnson
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SEARCH Law & Policy Division

DT: May 21, 2002

RE: Survey, Background Checks of Day Care Employees

Iowa SEARCH Member Tim McDonald has requested assistance from the SEARCH Membership Group regarding issues associated with background checks on individuals who work in day care facilities. Please fill out the following brief questionnaire and return it to me by email (copy the survey with your answers in a reply email to eric@search.org) or by fax to 916/392-8440. The survey is also attached above for your convenience. Please respond by **May 3, 2002**. Thank you very much for your assistance and cooperation.

1. Do day care facilities in your state do *state* criminal history checks on employees/volunteers?

_____ Yes (approximate number conducted each year? _____)

_____ No

2. If yes, who pays the state fee for the record check?

_____ No fee required

_____ Day care employee

_____ Day care facility

_____ State regulatory agency

_____ Other _____

_____ Fee Amount \$ _____

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3. Do day care facilities in your state do *national* criminal history checks on employees/volunteers?

_____ Yes (approximate number conducted each year? _____)

_____ No

4. If yes, who pays the FBI fee for this record check?

_____ Day care employee

_____ Day care facility

_____ State regulatory agency

_____ Other _____

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State	1	2	3	4
1-Alaska	Yes (number unknown)	Employer decides whether it or employee pays fee (\$35)	Yes (number unknown)	Employer decides whether it or employee pays fee (\$35)
2-Arizona	Yes (12,000)	Employee or facility	Yes (12,000)	Employee or facility
3-Arkansas	Yes (25,200)	Dept of Human Services funds background checks through Child Care Licensing Fund (\$15). Central registry checks are free.	Yes (1,200)	Each individual pays for the FBI check (\$24).
4-California	Yes (100,000)	Wide variation. Fee paid by applicant, facility or state regulatory agency, depending on circumstances. There are also fee-exempt day care facilities. (\$42, livescan submission; \$52 hard card)	Yes (100,000)	See #2. In a few instances, CAL DOJ or Social Services subsidize FBI check.
5-Colorado	Yes	Day care employee Day care facility (\$14 Colorado only, \$36 Colorado/FBI)	Yes (8,320)	Employee or facility
6-Connecticut	Yes. CGS 19a-80(c) and 19a-87(b) mandate background checks with fingerprints. (11,624 in 2001)	No fee required	Yes (11,739 in 2001)	Employee or facility
7-Florida	Yes (90,000 ¹)	Employee or facility (routine check \$15; day care check \$8)	Yes (90,000)	Employee or facility
8-Georgia	Yes (6,950)	No fee required	Yes (6,950)	Employee or facility; statute does not specify
9-Hawaii	Yes (10,700 ²)	No fee required	Yes (5,300)	Employee or facility (\$24)
10-Idaho	Yes (2,000)	Day care employee ³ (\$10)	Yes (2,000 ⁴)	Day care employee

¹ 90,000 checks of “caretakers” — mostly workers in day care centers — were conducted. Number also includes individuals who work in mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities, and in development services programs.

² Number includes 5,300 checks for first-time applicants and 5,400 annual checks of those already employed. Statistics reflect child care program in general including foster parents and babysitters.

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State	1	2	3	4
11-Illinois	Yes (13,400)	State regulatory agency (\$12)	Yes (4,500)	State regulatory agency
12-Indiana	Yes (3,600)	Day Care Facility (\$7)	Yes (0)	Day Care Facility
13-Kansas	Yes (125,000+)	No fee required	No	
14-Kentucky	Yes (23,000)	Employee or facility (\$10)	No	
15-Maine	Yes (13,616)	No fee if requested by government agency or if facility is non-profit. Otherwise, fee is \$8 paid by facility or operator	No	
16-Maryland	Yes (75,581)	State regulatory agency (\$18)	Yes (75,581)	Employee, facility
17-Minnesota	Yes (18,000)	Day care facility (part of licensing fees)	Yes (70)	Day care facility (part of licensing fees)
19-Mississippi	Yes (8,000-10,000)	State regulatory agency (\$24 = \$22 FBI fee + \$2 state fee)	Yes (8,000-10,000)	State regulatory agency
18-Missouri	Yes (Estimate not available)	Employee or facility (\$5 name; \$14 fingerprint)	No	
19-Nebraska	Yes (unknown)	Employee or facility	Yes	
20-New Jersey	Yes (17,745 conducted in 2001)	N/A	Yes (17,745 conducted in 2001)	State regulatory agency
21-New Mexico	Yes (8,000-10,000)	Employee	Yes (8,000-10,000)	Employee
22-Ohio	Yes (number unknown)	Employee or facility (\$15)	Yes (number unknown)	Employee or facility
23-Oklahoma ⁵	Yes (74,000-98,000 ⁶)	Employee or facility (\$15). OK Dept of Human Services (DHS)	No ⁷	

³ The employee or volunteer is responsible for the payment of fees. Idaho is not aware of what percentage is reimbursed by the day care facility.

⁴ State record and AFIS checks are conducted in conjunction with national checks.

⁵ Criminal history checks are mandatory by state statute for employees of child care centers, child placing agencies, children's shelters, family day care homes, part-day children's programs and residential (24 hr) childcare facilities licensed by the OK Dept of Human Services (DHS).

⁶ Ballpark estimate. OK has no way of accurately determining how many actual checks are conducted for child-related purposes as facilities, individual employees or intermediaries may request checks. Estimated 25% to 33% of the 295,794 name-based checks in FY 2001 were child care related.

⁷ OK DHS collects fingerprint processing fees for adoption and foster care screening from prospective parents and/or the appropriate child-placing agency. DHS is bill by the OK State Bureau of Identification (OSBI) for state and national searches. OSBI then remits national search fee to FBI.

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		pays for foster care checks.		
State	1	2	3	4
24-Rhode Island	Yes (5,000)	Day care employee (if local check only) (\$5)	Yes ⁸ (5,000)	State and local police agencies absorb initial cost and are supposed to be reimbursed by the state.
25-South Carolina	Yes (7,000+)	Depends on employer. Some pay. Some make employees pay.	Yes (7,000+)	Same as state check.
26-South Dakota	Yes (more than 100; less than 500)	Varies (\$15)	No	
27-Texas	Yes (32,022)	State regulatory agency	No	
28-Vermont	Yes (15,000)	No fee required	No	
29-Virginia	Yes (15,000)	Facility or individual (\$15/\$8 non-profit organization or volunteer)	No	
30-Washington	Yes (3,000)	Varies according to situation. Employee, facility or state regulatory agency (\$49 name or \$55 fingerprint).	Yes (by state statute only; not under NCPA as authorized by the FBI) (2,707)	Varies according to situation. Employee, facility or state regulatory agency (\$49 name or \$55 fingerprint).
31-West Virginia	Yes (18,603 in 2001, child/incapacitated adults)	Employee or facility (\$10)	Yes (number unknown; checks just beginning)	Employee or facility
32-Wisconsin	Yes (28,000)	Facility (\$4.50 for non-profit; \$7.50 for gov. agency; \$15.50 general public)	Yes for qualified entities (no estimates)	Facility
33-Wyoming	Yes (unable to estimate number)	Employee or facility (\$15)	No	

⁸ Requires the taking of fingerprints through state or local police agencies.