

SSSF Background Check Changes

Implemented November, 2014

What is happening?

The Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation (SSSF) is implementing some changes in how the organization conducts background checks on participating volunteers. Volunteers registering with the SSSF as a volunteer (i.e. head coach, assistant coach, or other adult volunteer) must submit to a secure background check and pay a \$12 fee to Intellicorp (SSSF's background check provider) when submitting to their background check. This fee is in addition to the \$30 annual registration fee paid to the SSSF for the SCTP or SASP programs. SSSF volunteer registration is not considered complete until background checks are completed.

What is the nature of the changes?

The SSSF is requiring head coaches, assistant coaches, and other adult volunteers to submit to an annual background check through a 3rd party provider, Intellicorp. In addition to the nationwide criminal background check conducted on an annual basis, the SSSF is now also requiring local county checks for a seven-year address history.

Why the changes now to multi-county checks?

The SSSF wants to ensure it upholds the highest standards in youth protection on behalf of its programs and young athletes. The SSSF also must ensure that all of its volunteers are screened with a comparable background check, regardless of their state of residence or residence history.

The National Criminal Databases (NCD) used as a *sole source* for background checks may not find all related criminal history. The National Criminal Database is only as good as the data provided to it, and those data come from the local courts. While some states are very good about requiring local courts to upload current data to the NCD, many states do not require ANY information be uploaded to the NCD. To ensure uniformity in screening volunteers across the nation, SSSF is requiring checks at the county level for a seven-year history.

Will these changes result in an increase in our SSSF coach fees?

The SSSF has solicited information on screening and pricing from six different vendors, and our long-time provider (Intellicorp), has proven to provide us with the best pricing and service options. However, with the more comprehensive checks come an increase in costs. Instead of increasing SSSF coach registration fees, volunteers registering with SSSF programs (SCTP and/or SASP) will pay a portion of the background check fee directly to Intellicorp at the time they submit to a background check. The fee charged to SSSF volunteers by Intellicorp will be approximately \$12 and can be paid online with a credit card upon submitting background check information.

Doesn't part of our \$30 coach fees already to go pay for a background check?

Yes, and part of the \$30 coach fees paid to SSSF will continue to pay for a portion of background checks costs. The cost paid by the SSSF to Intellicorp for each volunteer will typically be between \$5.55 and \$25 depending on the state, counties searched, and the associated court fees they charge.

When are these changes taking place?

The changes to the background check are effective immediately.

How do I initiate my background check with Intellicorp?

SSSF volunteers will initiate their checks just like they always have. Upon initiating registration with the SSSF for the SCTP or SASP programs, each volunteer will receive an email with a web link. Simply follow the web link to the Intellicorp website and follow the instructions.

Will this check and additional payment be required every year?

No. With this more comprehensive check, the SSSF will now require a check *every two years*.

I've already conducted a background check with someone else (employer, etc.). Is that sufficient?

No. Because the nature and extent of background checks can vary widely, all volunteers must submit to the SSSF check through Intellicorp. This ensures uniformity in what is being checked across the country.

Is my personal information secure?

Yes. All information is handled in accordance to the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation does not receive the applications, only the reports from Intellicorp.

How long do the checks take?

Most checks are completed in 1 to 3 business days; however, some can take longer depending on how the specific county level checks are conducted. Please check your coach record in the SHOT system to verify the check has been completed and cleared.