

Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCCR)

Volunteer background check

Why do I have to have a background check?

- State and federal agencies require background checks to ensure the overall safety and well-being of corrections clients

Who is contacted for the background check?

- Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and FBI, local and state systems for criminal history
- Current and previous employers /volunteer sites for instances of sexual abuse, misconduct and harassment

What do I need to provide?

- A completed Authorization for Record Access form provided by your volunteer coordinator
- A valid, State-issued driver's license or photo ID
- Fingerprint card, which will be administered by your volunteer coordinator
- Any additional background check forms your volunteer position may require, provided by your volunteer coordinator

How long will this process take?

- Typically it takes 3 to 6 weeks, but can take up to a year if additional information needs to be vetted

What if I have past offenses?

As a department we are built on the belief that with help, people who have been in the criminal justice system can become productive members of society. This is why, with the exception of the offenses listed below, we do not automatically disqualify a person with a criminal record from volunteering. We do require that you are not on active supervision, and there may be a waiting period after you're released before you can volunteer here.

We cannot pass anyone with a sealed record unless we are provided with the information. If you have a sealed record and you are interested in volunteering, you will need to work with the BCA to obtain your record and submit it when you apply.

People with the following offenses are not allowed to volunteer with DOCCR:

- Murder/Manslaughter
- Murder of an Unborn Child
- Criminal Sexual Conduct (all levels)
- Violation Predatory Offender Registration
- Domestic Assault by Strangulation
- Kidnapping
- False Imprisonment
- Solicitation, Inducement and Promotion of Prostitution
- Solicitation of Children to Engage in Prostitution
- Felony Malicious Punishment of a Child
- Felony Neglect or Endangerment of a Child
- Arson
- Drive-by Shooting
- Felony Stalking
- Indecent Exposure Involving a Minor
- Possession of pictorial Representation of Minors