



ABINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"The mission of the Abington Public Schools is to provide all students with relevant, challenging educational experiences to prepare them to be engaged, responsible citizens and members of the global community."


ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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www.abingtonps.org

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To: To All District Employees
From: Peter Schafer, Superintendent of Schools 
Re: Fingerprinting Requirements for Public School Employees:
Implementation of MGL Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2013
Date: November 20, 2014

In September 2013, Governor Patrick signed into law Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2013, "An Act Relative to Background Checks." This new law expands the Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) checks currently used in our schools. Specifically, it requires a fingerprint-based state and national criminal record check for all school employees. The State Applicant Fingerprint Identification System (SAFIS) MorphoTrust USA IndentoGo™ has been created for this purpose.

All employees hired since September 2013 should either have a completed SAFIS background check or have a check in process. To allow the backlog at many of the enrollment centers to clear, the state has not required checks for pre-September 2013 employees.

In order to comply with the new law, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is requesting that beginning in November, *all* employees will be checked according to a staggered schedule based on the first letter of the employee's last name:

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| A-D | November 2014 through March 2015 |
| E-K | April 2015 through August 2015 |
| L-P | August 2015 through December 2015 |
| Q-Z | January 2016 through May 2016 |

Currently, MorphoTrust USA IndentoGo™ enrollment centers are available in the following southeast communities:

- Brockton
- Hingham
- Hyannis
- Martha's Vineyard
- Nantucket
- New Bedford
- North Attleboro
- Plymouth
- Pocasset
- Taunton
- Westport

The Abington Public School System is committed to ensuring that all of its programs and facilities are accessible to all members of the public. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender identity or sexual orientation. The contents of all Abington Public Schools publications are available upon request in language other than English.

Additional details regarding the locations, including hours of operation, are available on the registration website. The Commonwealth continues to work with their fingerprinting vendor, MorphoTrust, to set up an additional enrollment centers across the state over the next few months.

On our website, www.abingtonps.org Fingerprinting” on Main Page, you will find the Statewide Applicant Fingerprint Identification Services (SAFIS) Acceptable Forms of Identification as well as the SAFIS-FORM-004: How to Change, Correct or Update your National Criminal History Record Response paperwork.

- To register online at <http://www.identogo.com/FP/Massachusetts.aspx>, select **Online Scheduling** or by phone at (866) 349-8130.
- You will be required to provide **Abington Public School District and ESE Organization Code: 00010000**.
- Unlike state CORI checks that have no associated fee, individuals will pay a fee to comply with this requirement of **\$35.00** for non-licensed employees and **\$55.00** for DESE Licensed Professionals (including those with pending applications/licenses).
- You will be provided with a fingerprint receipt. A copy of this receipt must be returned to Lynette MacNeil or Theresa Minnehan in the Office of the Superintendent as a confirmation that the fingerprints were captured.
- Do not list the individual school location. You must register under the Abington Public School District. When completing the online registration, please enter the following information for the District as your employer:
 - Provider or Organization code 00010000
 - Abington Public School District
 - 171 Adams Street
 - Abington, MA 02351
 - Phone 781-982-2150
 - Mr. Peter G. Schafer

For more information please visit: <http://www.mass.gov/edu/2013newsupdates/frequently-asked-questions-regarding-background-checks.html>; or <http://www.malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2013/Chapter77>.

If you have any further questions, please contact Theresa Minnehan, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools at theresaminnehan@abingtonps.org or Lynette MacNeil, Personnel Secretary, at lynettemacneil@abingtonps.org.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.