



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING NEW BACKGROUND CHECK REQUIREMENTS

A recent law change regarding child abuse clearances, and State Police and FBI criminal history reports will significantly impact PSEA members.

Please review the information in this Critical Alert to make sure you renew your child abuse clearances and criminal history reports in accordance with the new law.

What is the new law?

Act 153 of 2014 took effect on December 31, 2014. It sets forth new timelines for the renewal of school employees' child abuse clearance statements, and State Police and FBI criminal history reports. (The FBI report includes fingerprinting.) PSEA did not support all of these new requirements; however, they are now law. It is important that all PSEA members follow them.

When do I need to renew?

See the chart on the reverse side of this Critical Alert to determine when your clearances and criminal history reports should be renewed. **NOTE: This chart pertains to the initial renewal. Subsequent renewals will need to occur every three years.**

The new renewal deadlines will most immediately impact members with a clearance statement, State Police report, or FBI report issued in early 2012. Those documents will need to be renewed in early 2015.

Due to anticipated backlog, if your background check was issued December 31, 2011, or in January, February, or March 2012, you must apply for that background check IMMEDIATELY.

What should I do right away?

All members should:

- ✓ **Check your files** or check your school employer's files to find the dates of your current background checks, if any.
- ✓ **Review the chart** on the reverse side of this Critical Alert to determine when your clearances and criminal history reports should be renewed.
- ✓ **Check PSEA's website** for information regarding the new background check requirements at www.psea.org/backgroundchecks.

Act 153 – New Background Check Requirements

Includes clearance statement, State Police report, or FBI report

