

VOLUNTEER AND CRIMINAL HISTORY SYSTEM (VECHS)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Volunteer and Criminal History System (VECHS) was implemented in 1999 and is authorized by the National Child Protection Act (NCPA) in 1993, as amended, and Florida Statute 943-0542. The mission of the program is to protect children, the elderly and the disabled.

Through the VECHS program, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) provide qualified organizations (not individuals) in Florida with state and national criminal-history record information on applicants, employees and volunteers. Generally, to be qualified to participate in the VECHS program, an organization (public, private, profit or non-profit) must provide some type of care, education, treatment, recreation or care-placement services to children, the elderly or the disabled.

MEMBERSHIP/ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To become a qualified organization through the VECHS program at FDLE, an organization will need to submit an application to FDLE explaining what functions the organization performs that serve children, the elderly or disabled persons. The organization is also required to sign a user agreement stating the criminal-history information would be used only to screen employees and volunteers of that organization for employment purposes. The fee for each request is \$54.25 for each employee and \$33.25 for each volunteer.

CONTACT

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