

- D. The Department will not exercise its right of cancellation under paragraph C above if the Contractor gives the Department an opinion by the Commission indicating that the existence of this Contract and the employment by the state of Indiana of the interested party does not violate any statute or rule relating to ethical conduct of state of Indiana employees. The Department may take action, including cancellation of this Contract, consistent with an opinion of the Commission obtained under this Section.
- E. The Contractor has an affirmative obligation under this Contract to disclose to the Department when an interested party is or becomes an employee of the state of Indiana. The obligation under this Section extends only to those facts which the Contractor knows or reasonably could know.
- F. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that no employee, agent, representative, or subcontractor of the Contractor who may be in a position to participate in the decision-making process of the Contractor or its subcontractors may derive an inappropriate personal or financial interest or benefit from any activity funded through this Contract, either for himself or herself or for those with whom he or she has family or business ties.

**50. Criminal and Background Checks.**

A. This Section applies to all directors/chief executive officers, facility managers, licensing applicants and other heads of agencies, by whatever title, and each employee or volunteer (which includes interns) who has or will have electronic or physical access to children's records or direct contact with children on a regular and continuing basis or any contact when a child(ren) is/are alone or only with the Provider's staff in connection with performance of any services or activities pursuant to this Contract ("Covered Personnel"). To the extent applicable, the Contractor (referred to in this Section as Provider) shall conduct all criminal history and background checks required by law, this Contract, and the applicable DCS' policies, including those implemented by Administrative Letter. All required checks must be completed *prior to* the Contractor submitting this Contract for State signature. The checks will be conducted in the same manner as required for licensed residential child caring institutions, with respect to IC 31-27-3-3, subsections (e)(1) and (f), and the Provider shall maintain records of information it gathers and receives on Covered Personnel checked pursuant to this Section. The applicable laws and DCS' policies are updated periodically, and the Provider shall comply with those current as of the time the Provider executes this Contract, adds Covered Personnel, renews this Contract, or reaches the anniversary date of commencement of a multi-year agreement. Upon request, DCS will furnish the Provider with information on updates and any changes in policy or procedure. The current procedure requires the Provider to conduct the following checks:

- (1) For all directors/chief executive officers, facility managers and licensing applicants, regardless of their level of contact with children, and those with

**direct contact** with children on a regular and continuing basis or any contact when a child(ren) is/are alone or only with the Provider's staff in connection with performance of any services or activities pursuant to this Contract:

- (a) *Verify the identity* of all individuals subject to criminal and background checks by viewing a current government issued picture I.D.;
  - (b) *Conduct Child Protection Services (CPS) checks* for all states of residency in the past five (5) years (for Indiana, send DCS a Request for Child Protection Services History Check; for other states, see DCS' website on child welfare policies and contractor policies for web links to CPS records);
  - (c) *Conduct Sex Offender Registry checks* for all states of residency in the past five (5) years (see DCS' website for web links for national and state sex offender registry checks);
  - (d) *Conduct Local Law Enforcement checks with law enforcement agencies that would have responded to each residential address in the last five (5) years;*
  - (e) *Register for Fingerprint-Based National and State Checks through the State approved fingerprint vendor* [To do so, Contractor must confirm that it is listed as a current DCS agency with the current state-approved fingerprint vendor. If not, the Contractor's name will need to be added as a DCS agency prior to registering for fingerprinting.], *and follow through with obtaining fingerprints;* and
  - (f) *Review Results of Criminal and Background Checks* and take appropriate action.
- (2) For those with **only** electronic or physical **access to children's records**:
- (a) *Verify the identity* of all individuals subject to criminal and background checks by viewing a current government issued picture I.D.;
  - (b) *Conduct Child Protection Services (CPS) checks* for all states of residency in the past five (5) years (for Indiana, send DCS a Request for Child Protection Services History Check; for other states, see DCS' website on child welfare policies and contractor policies for web links to CPS records);
  - (c) *Conduct Sex Offender Registry checks* for all states of residency in the past five (5) years (see DCS' website for web links for national and state sex offender registry checks); and
  - (d) *Review Results of Criminal and Background Checks* and take appropriate action.

(3) For all Covered Personnel and Subcontractors:

The Provider shall require Covered Personnel and subcontractors for this Contract to immediately notify the Provider of any information about them that would have been revealed by the checks above including substantiation for child abuse or neglect or other similar complaints or charges and of any convictions or arrests. The Provider shall immediately relay such notice to DCS. The Contractor shall further collect from each Covered Personnel an annual attestation regarding whether that individual has any history of such substantiation, arrest or conviction and shall include any previously unreported information to DCS in its annual Certification (such Certification is included in Exhibit 3, which is attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference).

Except for A(3) above, the required checks must be performed every four (4) years based on the anniversary of the individual Covered Personnel's initial checks.

- B. The Provider shall be responsible for assessing job responsibilities and categorizing Covered Personnel as subject to A(1), A(2), or as not-covered and for performing the appropriate checks. Any Covered Personnel who might serve as a substitute for a covered position, even in emergency circumstances, should undergo the checks required for that covered position.
- C. The Provider shall maintain a record of the results of each check conducted pursuant to this Section. The Provider shall, if requested by the State, provide a copy of that record to DCS or make the record available for inspection by an authorized representative of DCS.
- D. With respect to any current Covered Personnel, the Provider shall submit the form attached hereto as Exhibit 3 (or a similar form as updated by DCS) at the time it submits this Contract to the State for signature or within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Contract, whichever is earlier, and annually upon the anniversary of the effective date of the Contract. Exhibit 3 will certify that the requirements under paragraph A of this Section have been completed. The Provider shall furnish any other documentation related to background checks as DCS requests. The Provider has an ongoing obligation to assess job responsibilities and to conduct appropriate checks for employees or volunteers who join the Provider after this Contract begins. Such staff may **not** provide any services that involve contact with children before the requisite checks have been completed.
- E. In order to allow DCS to evaluate the results and to make determinations regarding qualifications, national fingerprint-based criminal history checks relating to Covered Personnel are required to be conducted through DCS' approved fingerprint vendor in accordance with the terms and conditions stated in IC 10-13-3-38.5, 39. The results of the national fingerprint-based criminal history checks will be returned to DCS as

an authorized entity to receive the results. DCS will inform the Provider whether the report it receives concerning the subject of a check shows any record that would be grounds for denial of his/her ability to provide services and/or perform activities pursuant to this Contract. If any Covered Personnel receive a response of conditionally disqualified or disqualified, further follow up is required. If the result is disqualified, then the individual may be eligible for a waiver. The Provider should contact the DCS' background check unit to determine if the individual is eligible and to apply for the waiver. DCS will not release to the Provider any criminal history record information ("CHRI") contained in any report that it receives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") through the Indiana State Police ("ISP"). If the Provider requests a waiver of criminal history, DCS will inform the Provider of the decision on the waiver request.

- F. In the event a criminal history or background check required herein produces any record concerning the subject of a check that would be a ground for denial of his/her ability to provide services and/or perform activities pursuant to this Contract and the Provider chooses to retain such employee or volunteer, that decision may be considered a material breach of this Contract.
- G. The Provider will be responsible for payment of all fees required to be paid for conducting any check required under this Section, whether the check is conducted by the Provider or by DCS. Any fees paid by DCS on behalf of the Provider may be offset against any claim for payment submitted by the Provider under this Contract.
- H. Upon request, DCS will assist the Provider in clarifying the requirements of this Section.

**51. Purchase and Disposal of Property.**

- A. As used in this Contract, "equipment" means tangible, non-expendable, personal property having a useful life of more than one (1) year and having a unit acquisition cost of \$5,000.00 or more. The Contractor will not expend any funds provided by the State pursuant to this Contract for the purchase or maintenance of equipment.
- B. As used in this Contract, "supplies" includes all tangible personal property other than equipment that is purchased or acquired by the Contractor through expenditure of funds provided to the Contractor by the State pursuant to this Contract. If the Contractor has in its possession, upon expiration or termination of this Contract, unused supplies having a total aggregate fair market value exceeding \$5,000.00, the Contractor may retain those supplies for use in any continuation of the program or activities funded pursuant to this Contract that is supported by a federal funding source, or any other program or activity that is supported by a grant or contract from the State that is funded in whole or in part by a federal agency.