

National Service Criminal History Check Policy

2021 – 2022 Program Year

"Habitat Build & Repair Corps" AmeriCorps Program

The National Service Criminal History Checks (NSCHC) is a baseline screening requirement established by law to protect the beneficiaries of national service. Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity is mandated to fulfill all NSCHC requirements as an operational AmeriCorps State site.

Who is required to comply?

Any individual who works / serves on the operational grant provided by AmeriCorps state funding. This includes AmeriCorps members serving in the Habitat Build & Repair Corps and staff members in cost reimbursement positions related to the grant.

Who is ineligible to serve/work on an AmeriCorps grant?

You are considered ineligible to serve/work as an AmeriCorps or in cost reimbursable position if:

- You refuse to consent and complete the NSCHC.
- You make false statements in connection with NSCHC.
- You are registered or required to be registered on a state sex offender registry or the National Sex Offender Registry.
- You have been convicted of murder as defined in 18 U.S.C. 1111.

What checks are required?

DOJ National Sex Offender Public Website Check:

Determines the applicant's status on the NSOPW sex offender registry. Registration on the National Sex Offender Public Website for any reason immediately equates to declination or dismissal from the program.

FBI Criminal History Check:

Includes digital fingerprinting taken at a designated third-party kiosk. Includes a review of criminal convictions and probation. Results returned to CBHFH will be considered for program acceptance based on:

- The nature of the crime and its relationship to your position in the program.
- The time elapsed since the conviction.
- The number of convictions.
- Risk to the integrity of CBHFH, its programs, and its partners.
- Risk to the integrity of Massachusetts Service Alliance or AmeriCorps.

When must checks be completed?

All checks must be completed and adjudicated (results returned & approved) no later than the day before service or work commences.

For more information about the National Service Criminal History Check requirements as they pertain to Central Berkshire Habitat for Humanity's Build & Repair Corps program call (413)442-3181 or email info@berkshirehabitat.org.