

Clearances for Gwynedd Friends School

Pennsylvania law requires all persons having direct contact with school children to obtain background checks and clearances. Friends who have regular or extended business at the Meetinghouse during school hours (9:00 AM to 2:30 PM, Monday - Friday) are being asked to comply by submitting their clearances *as soon as possible*. Please note that if you are simply dropping something off or checking a mailbox, it is not necessary for you to obtain clearances.

Required clearances along with links to the state's websites are listed below and will be available on the school's website and on Gwynedd Friends Meeting's website. Your original clearances should be mailed to or brought to the school, and given to Kristen McBride, administrative assistant to Director of the School Daena Berdough.

1. PA State Police Criminal Record Check: <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp>

This clearance can be completed online.

2. PA Child Abuse History Clearance Online: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS>

Creating an account and submitting your clearance application online will give you access to your results or the status of your results if your results cannot be processed immediately.

3. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Criminal Background Check:

https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index_dpw.htm

If you have been a Pennsylvania resident less than 10 consecutive years, you must complete the fingerprinting process. **You must register through the Cogent PA Dept. of Human Services or PA Dept. of Public Welfare, not the Cogent PA Dept. of Education site.**

If you have been a Pennsylvania resident for the past 10 consecutive years, you may submit the Volunteer Affidavit in place of fingerprinting. The affidavit, which must be signed by the person completing it and a witness, can be downloaded at the following link:

http://keepkidssafe.pa.gov/cs/groups/webcontent/documents/document/c_160267.pdf

We are sorry, but the school cannot accept emailed clearances.

There is no charge for clearances (1) & (2). If you must be fingerprinted for (3), there is a charge of \$24.50. Please contact Mason Barnett, Clerk of the school's Board of Directors, if you would like financial assistance.

In general, if you have any questions, or would like help completing this process, please contact Mason by email at dr.masonbarnett@gmail.com or by phone at 215-307-7641.

Thank you for helping the school comply with the law.