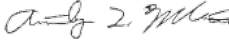




## **EMS Information Bulletin 2025-09**

**TO:** PA Regional EMS Councils  
PA EMS Agencies  
PA EMS Education Institutes

**FROM:** Anthony L. Martin   
Director  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

**DATE:** October 1, 2025

**SUBJECT:** New Requirement for FBI Background Checks

This memo serves as notice of a new requirement regarding criminal background clearances for individuals seeking EMS certification or reinstatement of their EMS certification in Pennsylvania.

In alignment with ongoing efforts to enhance public safety and ensure the integrity of the EMS system, the Department will implement a new FBI criminal history background check requirement, effective January 1, 2026.

All individuals who obtain an initial EMS certification, or reinstate an expired EMS certification, on or after January 1, 2026, will be required to submit an FBI fingerprint based criminal history background check. The background check cannot be more than ninety (90) days old at the time of submission of a complete and accurate application. The individual applying for certification is responsible for all expenses related to the FBI background check.

Individuals submitting a certification application on or after January 1, 2026, will need to upload their FBI background check to their certification application. Applications submitted without an FBI background check will not be processed and will be returned to the applicant.

Individuals who applied prior to January 1, 2026, but will not obtain certification until after January 1, 2026, are required to submit an FBI background check before a certification will be issued. The individual will need to email their FBI background check to their regional EMS council.

No certifications will be issued after January 1, 2026, without an FBI background check. There are no exceptions to this requirement.

EMS Institutes should ensure all current and future students are aware of this requirement.

This requirement does not apply to individuals who have a current/non-expired Pennsylvania EMS certification, or for reregistration of a Pennsylvania EMS certification. It also does not change the requirements for individuals applying for Certification by Endorsement (CBE).

To get an FBI background check in PA, register online at [uenroll.identogo.com](https://uenroll.identogo.com), enter service code 1KG756, and select "Schedule or Manage Appointment" to complete your application. You will then need to go to an approved fingerprinting location with the confirmation email and valid photo ID to have your fingerprints taken.

We recommend scheduling an appointment as soon as possible. It may take several weeks to get an appointment.

If you have any questions, please contact your regional EMS council or Jenni Hoffman, EMS Program Manager, at [jennihoffm@pa.gov](mailto:jennihoffm@pa.gov).