

## Information Regarding Clearances for Chaperones and Volunteers

Dear Parents/Guardians,

If you would like to volunteer at Saint Raymond School or be a chaperone on a class trip for the 2019-2020 School Year, you must get a **PA Criminal Background Check** and a **PA Child Abuse History Clearance**. If you have **not lived** in PA for the last ten years, you must also get an FBI Clearance.

The PA Criminal Background Check and PA Child Abuse History Clearance are now free for volunteers. You can apply for these clearances online.

Links to the clearance sites:

1. PA Criminal Background check: <https://epatch.state.pa.us/>
2. PA Child Abuse History Clearance: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/CWIS/Public/Home>
3. Federal Fingerprint Check (FBI): <https://www.pa.cogentid.com/index.htm>

For the Pennsylvania Criminal Background Check there is now a yellow button on the main page that says "New Record Check" with the words "volunteers only" in red to the right. Clicking there allows for volunteers to run their check free of charge. The fee waiver is for volunteering only. When completing the Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance online via the Compass site, be sure you have identified yourself as a volunteer when you begin the application so that the fee will be waived. The fee for the Federal Fingerprint Check remains unchanged. Remember the FBI check is only necessary if you have **NOT** lived in PA for the last 10 years.