

**National Background Check Program
State of Illinois**

Program Abstract

The Illinois Department of Public Health's (IDPH) goal for the national program is to provide our health care providers, throughout the State of Illinois, with a centralized point of contact for responsive support in conducting fingerprint background checks through the Illinois State Police (ISP) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for all direct patient access workers. We are committed to quality help through teamwork and a proactive approach in identifying and solving fingerprint background check problems. Our goal is to provide an electronic fingerprint background check from the beginning to the end. Fingerprints will be captured through live scan devices collecting a ten finger rolled set of prints. Data files and fingerprint images will be transmitted through secure file protocol transfers. Fingerprint matching on the state and federal level will be processed using only digital images. Background check results will be received back through the ISP and automatically uploaded into IDPH's computer system. Determinations of convictions will be made before notification is electronically provided to the health care facility that first initiated the background check in IDPH's web application. Any convictions reported electronically to IDPH by the ISP after the initial criminal history records check shall trigger an automatic notification to all current employers.

Grant money will be used to improve IDPH's background check web application, the Health Care Workers Registry, and to create an interrelated computer architecture with the Office of Health Care Regulations data system, eliminating the isolated pockets of data that currently exist. ISP's retrieval and export processing of criminal background check information will be enhanced. Implementation and training will be provided from these funds.