

**National Background Check Program
State of Missouri**

Project Abstract

The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) envisions a program that would provide a comprehensive, three-step background screening and employment eligibility determination process (self-disclosure, Family Care Safety Registry (FCSR) screening, Missouri and FBI fingerprinted criminal records search) that can be stopped at any point where disqualifying information is found, with provisional employment eligibility beginning after the FCSR screening; and a rehabilitation/waiver process that considers the specific background finding(s) along with a defined set of aggravating, mitigating and personal history factors.

The overall goals of the program in Missouri are:

- 1) To expand the scope to include more provider types; intensify the background screening process by adding state and federal fingerprinted criminal background checks; ensure an economical process by setting parameters for repeat screenings and incorporating RAP-back capability.
- 2) To refine the employment eligibility criteria, making it as uniform as possible from one provider type to another and to refine the rehabilitation/Good Cause Waiver process.
- 3) To improve system response and increase Internet usage of the background screening system.

Missouri requests total federal funds, which will be matched by state funds. Federal funds will be used by the Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) to replace the current FCSR system in Missouri and to address connectivity issues between the new system and other state agencies (Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP), and Departments of Mental Health and Social Services.) Federal funds will also be used to collect fingerprints and conduct the Missouri and nationwide FBI background checks for a pilot group of prospective employees.

Missouri's matching funds will fund a newly established Planner III position within the Family Care Safety Registry. Funds will also be used for the Good Cause Waiver program and for administrative support from a manager and support staff. Mainframe computer charges to the FCSR will also be paid for through General Revenue. The MSHP will use funds from its Criminal Records Fund to pay for developments and enhancements to its Computerized Criminal History System.