



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6417

January Session, 2021



AN ACT REQUIRING BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES OF YOUTH CAMPS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 19a-421 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

3 (a) No person shall establish, conduct or maintain a youth camp
4 without a license issued by the office. Applications for such license shall
5 be made in writing at least thirty days prior to the opening of the youth
6 camp on forms provided and in accordance with procedures established
7 by the commissioner and shall be accompanied by a fee of eight
8 hundred fifteen dollars or, if the applicant is a nonprofit, nonstock
9 corporation or association, a fee of three hundred fifteen dollars or, if
10 the applicant is a day camp affiliated with a nonprofit organization, for
11 no more than five days duration and for which labor and materials are
12 donated, no fee. All such licenses shall be valid for a period of one year
13 from the date of issuance unless surrendered for cancellation or
14 suspended or revoked by the commissioner for violation of this chapter
15 or any regulations adopted under section 19a-428 and shall be
16 renewable upon payment of an eight-hundred-fifteen-dollar license fee
17 or, if the licensee is a nonprofit, nonstock corporation or association, a
18 three-hundred-fifteen-dollar license fee or, if the applicant is a day camp

19 affiliated with a nonprofit organization, for no more than five days
20 duration and for which labor and materials are donated, no fee.

21 (b) On and after October 1, 2022, any licensee shall require any
22 prospective employee eighteen years of age or older, who is applying
23 for a position at a youth camp that requires the provision of care to a
24 child or involves unsupervised access to a child, to submit to a
25 comprehensive background check. The background check shall include,
26 but not be limited to, a (1) (A) national criminal history record check, (B)
27 check of the state child abuse registry established pursuant to section
28 17a-101k, (C) check of the registry established and maintained pursuant
29 to section 54-257, and (D) search of the National Sex Offender Registry
30 Public Website maintained by the United States Department of Justice,
31 or (2) check by a third-party provider of criminal history record checks
32 conducted through a centralized database established by an
33 independent national organization. Prior to each check of the state child
34 abuse registry conducted pursuant to this subsection, (i) a licensee shall
35 submit to the office an authorization for the release of personal
36 information signed by the prospective employee, on a form prescribed
37 by the office, and (ii) the office shall submit such authorization to the
38 Department of Children and Families.

39 (c) Pending completion of all background check components
40 described in subsection (b) of this section, a prospective employee may
41 begin work on a provisional basis, provided such prospective employee
42 is supervised at all times by an employee who was subjected to a
43 background check described in subsection (b) of this section within the
44 past five years.

45 (d) Each licensee shall maintain, and make available for inspection
46 upon request of the office, any documentation associated with a
47 comprehensive background check described in subsection (b) of this
48 section, for a period of not less than five years from the date of (1)
49 completion of such background check, if the subject of the
50 comprehensive background check was not hired by the licensee, or (2)
51 separation from employment, if the subject of the comprehensive

52 background check was hired by the licensee.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2021</i>	19a-421

KID *Joint Favorable Subst.*