



Wakeman Boys & Girls Club is committed to selecting and retaining effective staff and volunteers to serve our youth. As part of the selection process and in accordance with state background check regulations, background checks and screening procedures are conducted in accordance with this policy.

No person may start employment or volunteering until after successful completion of a background and reference check as required by this Policy.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

The Club conducts criminal background checks of all employees, including minors; board volunteers and others who serve on a standing committee; and all other volunteers, including partners and minors, who have direct repetitive contact with minors.

Name-based or fingerprint-based record searches may be used in any combination, but the background check shall at a minimum:

- Verify the person's identity and legal aliases through verification of a social security number.
- Provide a national Sex Offender Registry search.
- Provide a comprehensive criminal search that includes a national search.
- Provide a comprehensive local criminal search that includes either a statewide or county level criminal search, depending on jurisdiction.
- Include any additional background check criteria required by organizational policies, funding or licensing agencies or required in the applicable jurisdiction, such as motor vehicle records, child abuse registry or credit checks.

Such checks will be conducted prior to employment and at regular intervals not to exceed twelve months.

All background check findings shall be considered when making employment or volunteer decisions, and the Club will not employ potential staff or engage potential volunteers if such individual:

- a. Refuses to consent to a criminal background check.
- b. Makes a false statement in connection with such criminal background check.
- c. Is registered, or is required to be registered, on a state or national sex offender registry.
- d. Has been convicted, or has a pending charge, of a felony listed by the State of Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Education as a specific disqualifying crime (see <https://www.ctoec.org/background-checks/#what-happens>), which include:
 1. Murder
 2. Child abuse or pornography
 3. Domestic violence
 4. Abduction or human trafficking
 5. A crime involving rape or sexual assault
 6. Arson
 7. Fraud
 8. Weapons
 9. Larceny and robbery
 10. Physical assault or battery



11. Drug possession, use or distribution in the last five years
- e. Has been convicted of any misdemeanor or felony against children, including child pornography.

INTERVIEWING

The Club will conduct in-person behavioral-based interviews with every candidate for employment or program volunteer service. BGCA will provide behavioral-based interview questions for local use.

REFERENCE CHECKS

The Club conducts reference checks on any candidate for employment or volunteer with direct repetitive contact with young people. Should candidates for employment have previous experience with a Boys & Girls Club, information on the candidate's eligibility for rehire/volunteering must be obtained from all previous Boys & Girls Clubs for which the candidate worked prior to extending an offer for employment or volunteer service. Additionally, the Club provides reference materials when asked by other Member Organizations.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER ONBOARDING

Upon offer of a position, each new Club employee shall receive and confirm in writing receipt of an up-to-date employee policies and procedures manual or handbook that, at a minimum, articulates current:

- Conditions of employment;
- Benefits;
- Rights and responsibilities of employees;
- Club safety policies; and
- Any other important employment-related information.

Before working with any Club members, all staff and volunteers at a minimum shall be given an orientation that includes an overview of the following:

- The organization's mission, goals, policies and procedures and schedule;
- Job descriptions and performance standards for their position;
- The needs and other relevant characteristics of program participants, including cultural and socioeconomic characteristics;
- Personnel and volunteer policies and procedures, including expectations regarding work hours and schedules, breaks and planning time;
- Operational policies and procedures related to safety, supervision, transportation, facilities, emergency operations, etc.; and
- Completion of the required **Child Abuse Prevention Trainings** approved by BGCA.

MINORS (UNDER 18 YEARS OLD)

New employees who are minors (16-17 years old) will be hired using WBGC Procedures for Onboarding of Minor Employees including a Written Promise of Employment by WBGC and Statement of Age Form ED-301 (Working Papers) from their school.