

Volunteer Fingerprinting F.A.Q.

Who & Why

Q: Why do I need to be fingerprinted?

A: All youth-serving organizations are now required by the state of California to have their volunteers do a fingerprint-based background check if they volunteer for the organization for more than 16 hours a month or 32 hours a year.

Q: Which GSOC volunteer roles are required to be fingerprinted?

A: Troop Leaders, all Service Unit roles, all day camp volunteers, Camp Scherman sessional volunteers and the Gold Award Liaisons/volunteers

Q: If I am already a screened GSOC volunteer, do I still have to be fingerprinted?

A: If you volunteer more than 16 hours a month or 32 hours a year, or hold a role that we have already determined, you will need to be fingerprinted in addition to the standard background check.

Q: Will I need to cover any associated costs with fingerprinting or will GSOC cover these costs?

A: At this time, GSOC is covering the costs of fingerprinting.

Q: Our troop had cooperative leadership where every family takes turns running meetings. Do we all have to be screened/fingerprinted?

A: If they all hold a Troop Leader role or volunteer more than 16 hours a month or 32 hours a year, you must complete the fingerprint-based background check.

Q: Do Cookie volunteers have to be fingerprinted?

A: We are not requiring this role to be fingerprinted, however, if you or volunteer with girls more than 16 hours a month or 32 hours a year, you must complete the fingerprint-based background check.

Q: How often do I have to get fingerprinted? How often will my record be checked? Will I be notified?

A: You will only need to be fingerprinted once if you continuously volunteer. The California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) automatically sends GSOC updated arrest

records for as long as you are a volunteer. If you stop volunteering for more than a year and then start again, you may need to complete the fingerprinting again.

Q: I only plan on volunteering less than 16 hours a month/32 hours a year, will I still need to get fingerprinted? Will GSOC keep track of my hours to make sure I stay under the limit?

A: No, unless you hold a role that we have already determined must be fingerprinted. We will not track hours. It is your responsibility to report to us that you need to be fingerprinted if you hold a role that is not one that is required to be fingerprinted.

Where & How

Q: If I have been fingerprinted for another organization, can I use that clearance at GSOC?

A: No. Due to CA DOJ requirements, you will need to be fingerprinted again with GSOC. The California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) does not share information across organizations and will only send results to the organization named at the time that you do your fingerprints.

Q: Can I use my GSOC Live Scan clearance for another organization that is requiring me to get fingerprinted?

A: No, due to CA DOJ requirements, you must be fingerprinted for each organization. The California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) does not share information across organizations and will only send results to the organization named at the time that you do your fingerprints.

Q: I recently volunteered at another GS council and was fingerprinted there. Do I need to get reprinted here at GSOC?

A: Yes, due to CA DOJ requirements, fingerprinting must be done for each organization you volunteer with. The California Department of Justice (CA DOJ) does not share information across organizations and will only send results to the organization named at the time that you do your fingerprints.

Q: What are the locations and times where I can get my fingerprinting?

A: Locations and times can be selected through the portal that you will use to initiate the fingerprinting.

Q: What documents will I need to present to get fingerprinted?

A: Valid government issued ID

Q: Do I need to provide my Social Security number when getting fingerprinted?

A: No

Q: Can I still get fingerprinted to volunteer with GSOC if I am undocumented? If so, what forms of identification are acceptable?

A: A valid driver's license or CA ID is required.

Q: How long does it take for my fingerprints to be cleared?

A: Usually within 24 hours. Sometimes the CA DOJ does experience minor delays.

Q: I did my fingerprinting a few days ago and have not heard back. When can I expect to hear that I am cleared?

A: Due to the volume of volunteers that we are currently putting through the fingerprinting, we are only contacting those that had issues with their prints. Most volunteers clear quite quickly without any issues. If you have not heard from us within 2-3 business days from when you completed fingerprints, you can assume that you cleared without issue.

Q: If something comes up on my fingerprint background check, will I be notified of what it is?

A: Yes. If there are any issues with your fingerprinting, we will notify you via email.

Q: How long will GSOC keep my prints on file?

A: We do not keep prints on file. We will continue to receive arrest records from the CA DOJ for as long as you are an active volunteer.