



February 18, 2020

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP

RE: The Cost of Criminal History Record Checks

Dear Child Care Providers,

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) values child care providers in Nebraska. We recognize your efforts to ensure safety and well-being in child care settings. As you know in 2019 Nebraska state law was changed to enhance background requirements for licensed child care providers.

I am pleased to share starting March 1, 2020, **the Department will pay the full cost of fingerprinting and processing of EXISTING child care staff and household members.** Once the appropriate paperwork is completed, the Department will make payment directly to the Nebraska State Patrol on behalf of all required individuals employed prior to October 1, 2019.

New child care providers, staff members, and individuals who reside in the Family Child Care Homes after October 1, 2019 are still required to submit fingerprints for a criminal history prior to the start of employment or residency. These individuals are required to pay the full cost of the fingerprinting and processing independent of DHHS funding.

The process of full implementation is slated to take place over the next two years. The Department has coordinated with the Nebraska State Patrol and will send a follow up letter notifying you of your assigned window of time to submit fingerprints and the steps to follow. You do not need to do anything until you receive your letter.

Please review our website at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Child-Care-Licensing.aspx> for up-to-date background check information and resources, including forms and public LiveScan fingerprinting sites. If you have any questions, please contact the Division of Public Health, Licensure Unit at 1-800-600-1289 or by email at DHHS.ChildCareLicensing@nebraska.gov.

The Department thanks you for your commitment to provide quality child care for Nebraska's children.

Sincerely,

Dannette R. Smith, MSW
Chief Executive Officer
Department of Health and Human Services