



Background Checks

Why do I need to complete a background check to volunteer with children at UNICEF USA?

UNICEF USA is committed to actively safeguarding children from harm and to ensuring that every child's rights to protection are fully realized when participating in all programming associated with our work. UNICEF USA's commitment is consistent with Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which states that all children, wherever they may live and whatever their circumstances, have the right to be protected, nurtured and to be free from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect, maltreatment and exploitation. UNICEF USA maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward the sexual abuse and exploitation of children, or any other form of child abuse or exploitation of a child by UNICEF USA staff or anyone affiliated with UNICEF USA.

We know that UNICEF UNITERs, like you, are willing to spend their time to help advance the protection and promotion of children's rights. Unfortunately, not all volunteers have pure intentions like yours. That's why, even though you mean no harm, you – and every other individual that wants to volunteer with children at UNICEF USA – must undergo a screening process. It's the only way to ensure your safety and the safety of everyone around you. We know that volunteer screening can be costly, time-consuming and inconvenient. However, screening is not a nice-to-have as we continue our commitment to child safeguarding and the safety of our UNITERs.



In the end, a good screening process shows that the organization you are working with cares about their program. That is why UNICEF USA partners with Sterling Volunteers to conduct background checks that are free of charge to the volunteers and can be completed within a few business days. The process requires volunteers to set up an account with Sterling Volunteers following a link provided by UNICEF USA. Volunteers have full access to their information at all times. ●

Sterling Volunteers

Sterling Volunteers is the only background check platform tailored to the specific needs of the service sector and the first online community to mobilize repeat, vetted volunteers.

Sterling Volunteers is backed by Sterling Backcheck, one of the world's largest background screening companies, and partners with Points of Light, the world's largest organization dedicated to volunteer service.

To learn more about Sterling Volunteers, their privacy settings and to answer most FAQs please visit sterlingvolunteers.com/about/faqs/

Questions? Email us at volunteer@unicefusa.org.