

## **Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified School District Volunteer Fingerprinting – FAQ**

### **What is the fingerprint policy for Cutler-Orosi Joint Unified School District's volunteers?**

Volunteers who work with children in our District must submit their fingerprints for a criminal background check by the Department of Justice and FBI prior to working with the children.

### **Why does the District require volunteers to be fingerprinted?**

Student safety is the Board of Education's top priority and the Board wants to take every precaution to ensure students and schools are safe. It is another step toward student safety in addition to existing safety measures.

### **What do the background checks look for?**

Volunteers are held to the same standard as all District employees and may not begin service until clearing a fingerprint check. State law forbids people with convictions for sexual crimes, drug crimes, or serious or violent felonies from being employed by schools. The District extended this policy to cover COJUSD volunteers who work with students. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee has the discretion to deny volunteer service depending on the nature of the conviction as it relates to the volunteer's suitability and duties.

### **How often do I need to submit an application?**

An application form must be submitted each year but fingerprinting is done only once so long as the volunteer remains in "uninterrupted" service.

### **Will I have to pay anything?**

No. The District will cover the cost of fingerprinting if it is done at the District Office.

### **Where will fingerprinting take place?**

Fingerprinting is available by appointment at the Personnel Department at the District Office located at: 12623 Ave 416, Orosi, CA.

### **How long does it take to get results?**

Typical results are available within 10 days.

### **How will volunteers and schools be notified?**

School site secretaries are updated weekly. Potential volunteers can check with them to see if clearance has been received.

**How long is my fingerprint clearance good for?**

We are able to keep clearance information on file until otherwise notified. Please contact the Personnel Department for more information.

**Will I be issued an identification badge?**

Yes. You will be issued a new badge each year that you volunteer.

**Additional questions?**

For more information, please contact the Personnel Department at: (559) 528-4763.