

How To Satisfy The Federal Requirement of Suitability to Interact with Children (For Review on Monitoring)

Projects should have written determinations, required background and registry checks on all existing staff, volunteers, or others who are expected to interact with minors. In addition, projects should have thoughtful and thorough child abuse prevention policies and procedures in place.

To determine if an individual is suitable to interact with minors, does your agency:

1. Have written documentation of individual's suitability to interact with minors.
2. Document that the following sex offender and child abuse registries were checked:
 - a. Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender website: www.nsopw.gov
 - b. Hawaii Sex Offender website [HCJDC Covered Offender Search \(ehawaii.gov\)](http://HCJDC Covered Offender Search (ehawaii.gov))
 - c. The registry/website for any other state where the individual has lived, worked, or attended school in the last five years.
3. Document that the following background/criminal history checks were completed:
 - a. Hawaii Adult Criminal Conviction Information website: www.ecrim.hawaii.gov
 - b. A background check for any other state where the individual has lived, worked, or attended school in the last five years.
4. Review/update the individual's suitability to interact with minors every five years.
5. Have written policies and procedures regarding the prevention of sexual abuse of children and youth that address all six components as outlined in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guide:
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/preventingchildsexualabuse-a.pdf>

In particular, projects may not determine that a covered individual is suitable to interact with participating minors in the course of activities under the award if the covered individual--

1. Withholds consent to a criminal history search required by this condition;
2. Knowingly makes (or made) a false statement that affects, or is intended to affect, any search required by this condition;
3. Is listed as a registered sex offender on the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website;
4. To the knowledge of the grantee, has been convicted -- whether as a felony or misdemeanor -- under federal, state, tribal, or local law of any of the following crimes (or any substantially equivalent criminal offense, regardless of the specific words by which it may be identified in law):
 - a. sexual or physical abuse, neglect, or endangerment of an individual under the age of 18 at the time of the offense;
 - b. rape/sexual assault, including conspiracy to commit rape/sexual assault;
 - c. sexual exploitation, such as through child pornography or sex trafficking;
 - d. kidnapping;
 - e. voyeurism; or
5. Is determined by a federal, state, tribal, or local government agency not to be suitable.