

Protecting Today's Child Volunteer Application Packet

Dear Prospective Volunteer for CEF® Ministries with Children,

In today's society child abuse and child accusations are occurring daily. Therefore, it is important that Child Evangelism Fellowship® (CEF) take steps to protect the children to whom we minister and protect our workers from false accusations. All volunteers and staff are required to undergo screening according to CEF's Child Protection Policy. This includes the following:

1. Complete the Volunteer Application Packet.

- Read the Child Protection Policy
- Confidential Screening Form – please fully complete all sections including 4 references
- Complete and sign the Background Check Authorization Form
- Read and Sign the CEF Ministry Compliance Agreement
- Complete the Questionnaire for Volunteers
- Listen to the "Protecting Today's Child" DVD or audio presentation (12 minutes). You can listen to the audio presentation by calling 1-866-878-4182 or online at <https://www.cefonline.com/policy/>.

1. CEF requires a background check for all volunteers 18 years and older containing the following searches:

- National Criminal Database Search
- National Sex Offender Registry Search
- Social Security Number Address History Trace

2. Return all of these forms to your team leader or local CEF office and present a government issued ID such as a driver's license.

- Students may present a student ID if they do not have a driver's license.
- You are encouraged to submit the Volunteer Application Packet to your local CEF representative and to complete each additional part of the process in a timely manner. They will then pass it onto the Maryland State Office who will run your background check and print your official name tag stating that you are a screened volunteer.

Thank you for joining us in protecting today's child! We praise God that you are joining our team as we seek to reach every child in the state of Maryland with the Gospel! Return these completed forms to your local office along with appropriate fee of \$15.00, if applicable. You may mail check, or money order, scan QR code or click payment link below.



**Mail to: CEF OF Greater Baltimore
1777 Reisterstown Road Ste. 22, PMB 103
Baltimore, MD 21208**

OR

[PAY \\$15.00 FEE HERE](#)

POLICY

Child abuse is defined as any verbal abuse, online abuse, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or infliction of injury. Examples of sexual abuse are: rape, incest, sodomy, lewd or lascivious behavior which includes wrong types of speech, inappropriate use of communication devices or touching.

In order to protect the child from abuse and our workers from false accusations, the following steps must be taken.

1. Always provide adult supervision for children in our care.
2. Two-worker (minimum) rule: Two *CEF* workers, paid or volunteer, must be present at any *CEF* activity where children or minors are present including online or by phone.
 - a. Never be alone with a child/child in any setting.
 - b. Never be alone with a minor in any setting, unless the minor's parent has signed a waiver.
3. Ensure that all rooms where ministry is taking place are accessible (not locked) with a window in the door or the door left wide open. There should be no private conversations, texts or online chats.
4. Report to supervisory staff all suspicious or inappropriate behavior between any *CEF* worker and a child or minor.
 - a. Supervisory staff must complete R-9 (see USA Operations & Policy Manual) and investigate incident immediately.
5. Supervisory staff must make random visits of *CEF* sponsored activities.
6. Overnight activities sponsored by *CEF* involving children or minors must be approved by the local or state director and the local committee or state board.
7. The R-32 must be signed by a legal guardian before any pictures or videos may be taken of any individual. If a legal guardian is not present to sign the R-32, no pictures may be taken at all.

- a. Registration forms that include optional photo release with R-32 verbiage cover the requirements for R-32.
- b. Pictures and videos may only be used on official *CEF* owned and operated social media forums and websites.
- c. Pictures and videos may not be shared directly to a personal social media forum. However, you may re-share photos or videos that have been posted from an official *CEF* social media forum or website.

PRE-SERVICE SCREENING

All volunteers who have contact with minors (in person, online or by phone), all paid staff and all committee/board members who represent and/or participate in *CEF*:

1. Be screened by a face-to-face interview
2. Show a government issued photo ID
3. Read the Child Protection Policy.
4. Listen to or view the *Protecting Today's Child* presentation.
5. Read and sign the Ministry Compliance Agreement.
6. Complete the Confidential Screening Form.
7. Complete the Background/Reference Check Authorization (parent must sign for a minor).

For adults (18 and older), in addition to 1-7, *CEF* must:

8. Conduct a criminal background check with these minimum requirements
 - National Criminal Database Search
 - If a state or county does not report to the National Criminal Database, then a state or county report is required.
 - National Sex Offender Registry Search
 - Social Security Number Address History Trace

Notes:

- These are minimum requirements. State boards determine if additional

- requirements are necessary for exercising due diligence.
- If your legal jurisdiction requires more, you must also comply with their requirements.

For minors (ages 14-17), in addition to 1-7, *CEF* must:

9. Check two references, one of which is the pastor.

For all adult staff (paid or volunteer), in addition to 1-8, *CEF* must:

10. Criminal record check for all states where the worker lived in the past five years.
11. Check at least two references, one of which is the pastor.

For adult volunteers serving at camp or overnight events, in addition to 1-8, *CEF* must:

12. Check at least two references, one of which is the pastor.

SPECIAL NOTE: Volunteers under age 14 must:

- Always be under the direct supervision of a screened worker aged 16 or above.
- Never be supervised by a single individual (adult or minor).
- Never serve as one of the two individuals in the two-worker policy requirement.

Criminal Background Check Screening Rules

Check references in cases where the applicant has a criminal record or other red flag that does not necessarily disqualify him/her from participation in *CEF* ministries.

The following would prevent a person from working with *CEF*:

1. Any crime against children. No exceptions.
2. Any sex crime of any type. No exceptions.
3. All felony convictions. Exceptions require the approval of the vice president, USA Ministries.

Rescreening Requirements

1. Every worker must review the *Protecting Today's Child* presentation annually.
2. Workers who have not been active within one year must have a Criminal Background Check rerun.
3. Every worker must have a Criminal Background Check rerun every five years.

4. A worker transferring to another area must obtain from his former location a signed and completed Screening Procedure Checklist. If the Criminal Background Check was conducted more than five years prior, the transferred worker must be processed as a new worker.
5. All minors (ages 14-17) must be processed as new adult workers when they reach their 18th birthday.

ENSURING COMPLIANCE

1. The committee chairman is responsible for ensuring compliance within his local chapter by annually signing and submitting the CPP Compliance Verification Form (OPM, R-22) to the state board chairman.
2. The state board chairman is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Child Protection Policy within his state. Annually, the state board chairman confirms compliance by signing and submitting the CPP Compliance Verification Form (OPM, R-22a) to USA Ministries.
3. USA Ministries monitors to ensure 100% compliance with this policy.

REPORTING OBLIGATIONS

When any worker has reasonable suspicion that a minor or child is being abused by **anyone representing *CEF***, or is himself accused, or someone whose action would reflect on *CEF* is accused, the following action must be taken:

1. **Call USA Ministries 636-456-4321, ext. 5510 as soon as possible and within 24 hours. Notify your next higher office that this step has been taken.**
2. Any person suspected of child abuse will, upon request, voluntarily relinquish or be removed from duties which involve direct contact with minors or children until the matter is completely resolved.
3. USA Ministries will determine the future ministry of the accused staff member or volunteer.

WARNING: Failure to follow reporting procedures of USA Ministries may result in termination of all *CEF* workers responsible in this reporting process.

All *CEF* staff and volunteers must fully abide by this policy and all state child abuse reporting requirements.

Code of Conduct

This code of conduct outlines what is considered appropriate interaction between a CEF worker and a minor child. This code should be followed by CEF staff and volunteers.

Appropriate & Encouraged Interactions	Inappropriate & Prohibited Interactions	Harmful & Prohibited Interactions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praise, encouragement, & acknowledgement • Rewards available to all who achieve • Pats on the back or shoulder • Side hugs • Handshakes & high-fives • Asking a child's permission to help with things like, shoe tying, putting on back packs or outerwear (jackets) & gathering personal effects to take home. • Warmth & kindness • Public social media alerts to groups of kids & parents through an official CEF operated forum. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated one-on-one interactions • Risqué jokes • Profanity • Favoritism • Gift giving to individual children • Frontal hugging • Photographing or video recording individual children without R-32 permission • Contact outside of program activities • Exchanging of personal email or phone numbers • Private interactions through social media, computer, or handheld devices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patting buttocks • Lap sitting • Actions or speech that humiliates, threatens, ridicules, degrades or frightens. • Corporal Punishment of any kind • Touching of personal areas; face, mouth, legs, breasts, stomach, genitals. • Intimate, romantic or sexual conduct • Showing pornography or involving youth in pornography



Since 1937

CEF
CHILD EVANGELISM
FELLOWSHIP®

Reaching children worldwide™

CONFIDENTIAL SCREENING FORM

Child Evangelism Fellowship® Child Protection Policy

This screening form is to be completed by applicants for any position, paid or volunteer, involving CEF® ministries and will be used to help CEF provide a safe and secure environment for children. This is not an employment application. (Please print.)

DATE: _____

Applicant's Name (last, first, middle)		Sex	Date of Birth
Social Security Number	Maiden Name	All Nicknames and Aliases	
Telephone ()		Email	
Present street address (Street, Apt #, City, State, Zip; PO Box not acceptable)			County
Previous street addresses (for past five years)			
Have you ever been convicted of a crime? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain and give county and state of conviction.)			
Have you ever been accused of child abuse? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain.)			
Please explain briefly your salvation experience. (If completing form for five-year rescreening, skip this question.)			
List any experiences that has prepared you for children's ministry. (If completing form for five-year rescreening, skip this question.)			
References (pastor or church leader, previous employer and personal [not a relative]). (Skip for 5-year rescreening.)			
NAME CHURCH ADDRESS TELEPHONE () E-MAIL		NAME RELATIONSHIP ADDRESS TELEPHONE () E-MAIL	
NAME RELATIONSHIP ADDRESS TELEPHONE () E-MAIL		NAME RELATIONSHIP ADDRESS TELEPHONE () E-MAIL	

Background/Reference Check Authorization

Release Authorization:

1. In connection with my future involvement as a staff member or a volunteer working with children, I understand that CEF® will conduct a background check to determine my ability to minister in this role. It may include information concerning my character, work habits, performance and any court records that may have a bearing on my job responsibilities.
2. I acknowledge that a telephonic facsimile (fax) or photocopy of my signature shall be as valid as the original.
3. I hereby authorize, without reservation, any law enforcement agency, institution, information service bureau, school, employer, church or non-profit organization, reference, or insurance company contacted by CEF or its consumer reporting agency or its agents, to furnish the information described above.
4. I understand that if any of those records contains information which is used to prevent my involvement in *Child Evangelism Fellowship®*, I will be notified of my rights and where I can obtain a copy of the information.

By signing below, I hereby release *Child Evangelism Fellowship* and its agents, officials, representatives, or assigned agencies, including officers, employees, or related personnel both individually and collectively, from any liability for damages of whatever kind, which may at any time result to me, my heirs, family, or associates because of compliance with this authorization and request to release information. I may be contacted as indicated below. A copy of this authorization (if not previously destroyed in accordance with record retention policies) will be given to me, provided I request it in writing.

The information contained in this screening form is correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize any references listed on this application to give you any information (including opinions) they may have regarding my character and fitness for children's work. I hereby release any individual, church, youth organization, employer, charity, reference, or any other person or organization, both individually or collectively, from any and all liability for damages of whatever kind or nature which may at any time result to me, my heirs or my family on account of compliance or any attempts to comply with this authorization, excepting only the communication of knowingly false information.

I agree to abide by the Child Protection Policy and to refrain from unscriptural conduct in the performance of my services on behalf of CEF.

I have read the Child Protection Policy and viewed (cefonline.com/childprotection) or heard (866-878-4182) the *Protecting Today's Child* presentation and agree to follow the policies and procedures in handling any child abuse situations that may arise.

I further state that I have read carefully the foregoing release and know the contents thereof. This is a legally binding agreement which I have read and understand.

Signature of applicant (or parent of minor)

(Print name)

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY ↓

☐ **Identity confirmed with government issued photographic identification.**

Signature of **witness** to photographic identification

(Print name)

Date

All information acquired will be used within the *Child Evangelism Fellowship* organization as it pertains to work with children unless signified otherwise in writing upon completion of this form.

Please return all paperwork to the following address:

*Marie Dunsen Dawson, Director
CEF of Greater Baltimore Chapter*

*1777 Reisterstown Road, Ste. 22, PMB 103
Baltimore, MD 21208*

Please note: A different form may be required by the reporting agency or state government agency you are using.



CEF® Ministry Compliance Agreement

Child Evangelism Fellowship®

Doctrinal Protection Policy - Adopted by CEF International Board of Trustees, May 6, 2002

Child Evangelism Fellowship® continues in its commitment to its Statement of Faith, which embodies the non-negotiable and historic beliefs of evangelical Christians.

Within the community of evangelical believers various distinctives exist which do not prevent our fellowship in the Lord and our effectiveness as child evangelists.

We therefore resolve that CEF® workers are qualified by their unreserved commitment to CEF's Statement of Faith and their further commitment in all CEF activities to refrain from teaching or otherwise advocating doctrinal distinctives either contrary to or in addition to the Statement of Faith.

Recognizing the spiritual need of boys and girls in our community and around the world, I would like to assist in the work of *Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF)*.

I understand that CEF is without specific denominational affiliation and have read the Statement of Faith and CEF Doctrinal Protection Policy. In becoming a co-worker with CEF, and to protect the ministry, I agree not to propagate or practice in CEF ministries any distinctive or controversial doctrines, methods and practices that would go beyond the CEF Statement of Faith and the approved CEF curriculum. These would include but not be limited to such things as modes of baptism, speaking in tongues, interpretation of Scripture by experience, healing on demand, etc. I understand that anyone who does not adhere to this agreement cannot serve with CEF as paid staff or volunteer.

In teaching Bible lessons in core CEF programs I will use exclusively materials approved by CEF.

In offering my services I trust the Lord to make me a faithful servant, and should problems arise between CEF and me that cannot be fully reconciled, I will quietly withdraw to preserve the harmony essential to having an effective Christian witness.

By signing below, I indicate:

- My agreement with the Statement of Faith, and that
- I will abide by the above CEF Ministry Compliance Agreement, and that
- I will abide by the policies of CEF for as long as I am actively involved.

(Only applicable in the USA):

- I have reviewed the Protecting Today's Child presentation (866-878-4182 or www.cefonline.com/childprotection) in the last 12 months.
- If you have a question about a specific policy or to see a complete copy of all policies, contact your director.

(NOTE: On digital forms, your typed signature carries the same weight as your written signature.)

Signed _____ Date _____

Print Name _____

Street Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email _____ Telephone # _____

Church Affiliation _____

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Maryland
Questionnaire for Volunteers

Name (as you would like it to appear on your ID badge): _____

T-Shirt Size: _____

Capacity: _____

(Ex. GNC team member; 5-Day Club hostess; summer missionary, fair ministry; board member; etc.)

1. Why are you interested in being involved in this capacity?

2. Describe any painful life experiences you had as a child/minor which may hinder you from a productive ministry with children.

3. Have you read the Child Protection Policy?

Yes No (please read before turning in this form)

4. Please watched the video "Protecting Today's Child" at www.cefonline.com/childprotection or listen to the 12 min presentation at 1-866-878-4182.

Date completed: _____

Screening Procedures Checklist

Child Evangelism Fellowship® Child Protection Policy

All Volunteers and Staff

This completed checklist ensures that the procedures of the Child Protection Policy have been completed and will be used to transfer screening clearance information between various offices of CEF® without duplicating the process. It will also allow the confidentiality of the screening information to be maintained.

Name _____ School _____
(Please Print) (If applicable)

Capacity: _____
(Ex. GNC team member; GNC hostess; 5-Day Club hostess; summer missionary, fair ministry; committee member; etc.)

Part A: To be completed by local chapter

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INITIAL</u> *	
_____	_____	1. Confidential Screening Form completed.
_____	_____	2. Background Check Authorization completed
_____	_____	3. Questionnaire for Volunteers completed
_____	_____	4. "Protecting Today's Child" presentation viewed or listened to.
_____	_____	5. "Protecting Today's Child" Policy read.
_____	_____	6. Government issued ID checked (drivers license, or student ID for minors)

Authorized signature	Print Name	position	date completed
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*Initials of authorized personnel certifying that this part of the screening procedure is complete.

Part B: To be completed by the State Office

DATE
_____ Background check cleared

_____ Approved for CEF ministry with children by: _____

Following the original screening, has the individual been inactive for more than one year?

FIVE-YEAR RE-SCREENING

Repeat steps 1-2 above and conduct Criminal Record Check again.

Signature: _____ Date of completion: _____

For transfer of information only:

To the best of my knowledge, the above screening information is correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

