

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION- RAP BACK FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What is Rap Back?

Rap Back is an optional Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) service that will allow authorized government agencies to receive notification of subsequent activity on individuals who hold positions of trust (e.g. school teachers, daycare workers) or who are under criminal justice supervision or investigation, thus eliminating the need for repeated background checks on a person from the same applicant agency.

*Record of
Arrest and
Prosecutions
BACK*

With Rap Back, authorized government agencies will receive on-going status notifications of any criminal history record information reported to the FBI and State (if applicable) after the initial processing and retention of criminal transactions. By using fingerprint identification to identify persons arrested and prosecuted for crimes, Rap Back provides a nationwide notice to noncriminal justice authorities regarding subsequent actions.

What is SAM?

The Subscription Application Manager (SAM) program is an online system that will allow the employer and/or licensing agency to maintain a roster of employees or licensees who are eligible for enrollment into Rap Back. It will also allow for the employer or licensing agency to set the subscriptions for Rap Back of their qualified employees/licensees.

How do I know if my agency may be able to participate in Rap Back?

In order to be eligible to participate in Rap Back, the governmental agency must have a current Public Law 92-544 Maryland Statute. The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) - Central Repository will be contacting those agencies informing them of their eligibility.

What do governmental agencies that receive criminal history background results from CJIS need to do?

If allowed by law, have their employees and/or licensees fingerprinted and when available, enroll in the Rap Back service.

Under the Privacy Act, an applicant is entitled to receive notification of the retention of fingerprints by the FBI and CJIS and a summary of intended uses. The future uses include the searching of latent fingerprints against retained civil fingerprints.

What do livescan fingerprint operators need to do?

Livescan operators will submit fingerprints for background checks the same they always have.

What is the cost?

There is no cost to enroll into Rap Back. The cost for fingerprinting remains the same.

Will the FBI or CJIS provide any reimbursement for having employees and/or licensees re-fingerprinted?

No.

Is there a deadline for an agency to have all of its employees and/or licensees re-fingerprinted for Rap Back?

There are no deadlines set by the FBI or CJIS for when agencies should have their employees and/or licensees re-fingerprinted and/or enrolled in Rap Back. Rap Back is an optional program and participation is voluntary.

Where can agencies interested in participating in Rap Back send their employees and/or licensees to be fingerprinted?

Agencies can send employees and/or licensees to any Maryland authorized fingerprinting provider.

Will there be training for Rap Back and SAM?

Yes, CJIS will be providing more detailed information and training as the implementation date for Rap Back and SAM nears.

When will Rap Back be implemented in Maryland?

CJIS anticipates that Rap Back will be implemented within the first quarter of 2019. Additional information will be shared as the implementation date nears.