

## Oregon Department of Human Services Registry for screening for neglect and abuse

Using many sources of information, the Department of Human Services (DHS) currently conducts background checks for employees, volunteers and regulated care providers. The department already uses child abuse and neglect information for providers of child care. The 2007 Oregon Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2175, authorizing DHS to also use abuse and neglect information to screen applicants for employee, volunteer and other care provider positions. HB 2175 is now codified as Oregon Revised Statute 409.025 and 409.075.

As part of the background check process, DHS is developing a “do not employ” registry. This registry will identify people who have in their background substantiated reports of abuse or neglect at the highest level of severity; the “worst of the worst.” These individuals would be unemployable anywhere in the DHS system. DHS will also use abuse and neglect information to screen for less severe types of abuse and neglect to help make the best possible hiring decisions on a case by case basis. Individuals will have the right to appeal the employment decision.

DHS is committed to collaborating with providers to create an effective, workable and fair system, and to develop an implementation plan for using abuse and neglect information for screening care providers. The survey below is one opportunity for employees, volunteers and contracted care providers to provide input into this effort. We encourage you to take this opportunity to respond to the following questions.

The survey can be returned:

By mail:

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## DHS screening for neglect and abuse: your suggestions

Q: After reviewing the proposed process, do you think the implementation of this screening tool for employees, volunteers and providers of service would be effective, workable and fair?

Q: Do you agree with ranking the severity of allegations of abuse within these categories of abuse that make up the registry, or do you have suggestions or concerns?

Q: Based on your knowledge and professional experience, are there particular considerations you would advise the work team to keep in mind, as they refine the process and implementation plans?

Q: Should removal from the list be automatic or only if subjects petition for reconsideration?

Automatic \_\_\_\_\_ By petition \_\_\_\_\_

Q: How long do you think people should be on the "do not employ" list?

5 years \_\_\_\_\_ 10 years \_\_\_\_\_ forever \_\_\_\_\_ other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Q: Do you foresee potential unintended consequences in implementing DHS screening for substantiated allegations of neglect and abuse?

Q: What changes or refinements, if any, would you recommend to the proposed process, or implementation of the process?

Q: Are there other comments about the process that you would like to share?

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I am a:        \_\_\_\_\_ present DHS employee                                \_\_\_\_\_ present DHS volunteer  
                  \_\_\_\_\_ present DHS care-provider                                \_\_\_\_\_ other (please specify)

If you would like additional information or would like to contact us with further questions or suggestions, visit our website at: [www.oregon.gov/dhs/chc/abuseneq/index.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/chc/abuseneq/index.shtml)