

# Ohio | National Background Check Program

## Rap Back News!

The Ohio Attorney General's Office (AGO), Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) is currently enrolling Medicaid providers to pilot test Rap Back 2.0. Be one of the first providers in the state to access the latest technology!

All Medicaid providers who currently have an ARCS account are eligible to enroll in Rap Back for pilot testing. To join and set up your account, go online: <https://arcs.ohio.gov/bcs>. After logging in, click the *Ohio Attorney General-BCI-Rap Back* link.

The AGO is very excited to offer this initiative to health and human service agencies to protect patients and make it easier to prosecute violations of the law. We look forward to your participation!

Rap Back is a continuous criminal record monitoring service used to obtain criminal records checks and satisfy post-employment background check requirements. Traditional background checks provide a 'snapshot' of a person's criminal history. Agencies with individuals enrolled in the Rap Back Program will receive notifications of any subsequent criminal history. The program began in 2007 and helps to protect Ohioans from convicted criminals remaining in positions of trust (e.g. school teachers, foster parents) by providing continual monitoring of an enrolled employee's arrest and/or conviction history.

### How Does Rap Back Work?

Fingerprint-based criminal record databases maintained by BCI, pursuant to ORC 109.57, will be continually compared against the Retained Applicant Fingerprint Database. When the Rap Back service discovers that records received under ORC 109.572 indicate an individual enrolled in Rap Back has been arrested or convicted of a crime or scaled misdemeanor, the Rap Back service will alert the participant to log into the web portal for more information, allowing employers to receive notification.

### Upgrade to Rap Back 2.0

The current version of Rap Back requires a state agency to manage the enrollment as well as disenrollment of applicants. The upgrade to Rap Back 2.0 not only allows potential employees to be enrolled into Rap Back, but also allows the enrollment/disenrollment process to be managed by the employer.

Medicaid providers that hire employees who have direct contact with the elderly and disabled populations are eligible to enroll in Rap Back at a cost of \$5 per employee per year. The AGO will bill the provider at the end of each enrollment year for renewal.

### Have Questions?

Contact BCI:  
(877) 224 - 0043

## Why Is Rap Back Important for Providers?

- » **Reduces the administrative burden and potential cost** to approximately 3,000 participating agency providers by offering continual monitoring of an enrolled employee's arrest or criminal conviction.
- » **Provides the employer notifications** of arrests or convictions that otherwise may not be detected until a new background check is done.
- » **Improves the safety and quality** of services provided by an estimated 132,000 direct patient access workers.
- » **Ohio is the first state** to offer Rap Back 2.0 to private health care providers.

## ARCS Update!

### YOU Can Enroll in the Automated Registry Check System (ARCS) NOW!

The Ohio Department of Medicaid adds new home and community based service providers to ARCS on the 1st and 15th of each month. As of early December, we have approximately 150 providers enrolled. These providers represent a wide variety of provider types.

To enroll in ARCS, make sure your provider demographic information is updated in the MITS portal, then, send an email to [arcs.bcs@medicaid.ohio.gov](mailto:arcs.bcs@medicaid.ohio.gov) and let us know you are ready to get started.

For more information or questions regarding eligibility, contact:  
[arcs.bcs@medicaid.ohio.gov](mailto:arcs.bcs@medicaid.ohio.gov)

## Using ARCS - Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Are volunteers (for example: those who deliver meals through Meals on Wheels) required by Ohio law to get registry checks or criminal background checks?

**A:** §§ 173.27 and 173.38 of the Ohio Revised Code specifically exclude volunteers from the requirements for criminal records checks.

**Q:** If I enter an applicant under her current last name and she is already in ARCS under a different last name or alias, would her record show up?

**A:** If you know a person's maiden name, enter it as an alias to make the results as accurate as possible.

The registries do vary in their search criteria but, in general, as long as her previous name is listed as an alias, ARCS will show a match.

In registries where the match occurs by SSN and last name or SSN and DOB, you should get a match. As long as her SSN is correct, ARCS would show a match by SSN under a different last name. If you search by her SSN and DOB, you should also get a match because these fields never change.

**Q:** On the Person Summary Page, if you find that some of the demographic information such as address is incorrect, what should you do?

**A:** The user is responsible for verifying that the applicant's information is correct. You must make corrections and updates so a person's summary page is populated with accurate information. This applies to the Background Check Fingerprint Request as well.

**Q:** How does the Ohio Nurse Aide registry work? I entered a nurse aide and it returned no results.

**A:** The Ohio Nurse Aide Registry (NAR) is not a verification of a nurse aide's training or active certification. You will only get a match if the nurse aide is in the registry for abuse, neglect, or misappropriation.