

# Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) require this information?

First, thank you for your service as a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America. Since 2003, background checks have been conducted on new volunteers when they register. Background checks have not been performed for those volunteers continuously registered in the same position prior to 2003. Our records indicate you are part of this group.

Why do you need my authorization to conduct a criminal background check?

Some versions of the BSA adult applications prior to April 2003 did not have a complete authorization and disclosure statement for a criminal background check to be conducted. The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act mandates that organizations must have a signed authorization from the individual to conduct a CBC.

The letter you received from the Chief Scout Executive directs you to a Web site specifically established to give consent for the CBC. The Web site becomes active on June 1, 2008.

Where do I find my user ID?

Your user ID is at the bottom of the letter you received from the Chief Scout Executive. Enter your user ID carefully to ensure you enter it correctly.

Where do I find the password?

Your password is at the bottom of the letter you received from the Chief Scout Executive. Enter your password carefully to ensure you enter it correctly.

Why do you need my Social Security number?

The Social Security number ensures that an applicant is correctly identified. We cannot perform a background check without a Social Security number. Consequently, those who decline to provide their Social Security number will not be allowed to register as leaders in the Boy Scouts of America.

BSA will do everything possible to safeguard your personal information. Only a limited number of approved employees with the highest levels of clearance will have access to the information. VolunteerSelect, the software we use for background checks, uses an encrypted and secure Web site for data collection. We do not share the information with any other organization or person.

What if I decline to give my information?

To protect our members, BSA requires background checks for all registered volunteers. If you choose to decline the background check or you do not complete the authorization process, your registration with BSA will be cancelled. You can apply again for membership in the BSA by submitting a completed Adult Volunteer application to your local council.

When will this Web site close?

This Web site will close on August 1, 2008. If you have not completed the authorization process by this date, your current BSA membership will expire. You can apply again for membership in the BSA by submitting a completed Adult Volunteer application to your local council.