BACKGROUND CHECKS

Three background checks are completed on all credential providers:

1. Child Abuse and Neglect Tracking System (CANTS)
2. Fingerprint-Based Background Check
3. Sex Offender Registries Check

- The CANTS form is sent to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for processing which can take up to 12 weeks. No CANTS form will be processed without a complete credential application.
- Fingerprint-based background checks are usually done with live scan technology. This is more reliable than ink fingerprint cards. Very few police departments have been approved by the Illinois State Police for handling fee transactions for livescan. A list of approved vendors is found on the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation website. Several vendors have offices located throughout the state.Early Intervention providers only need a state background check. Results are received in approximately 72 hours. The authorization form needs to be returned to Provider Connections and can be mailed or faxed. If prints are rejected, the provider will be notified by mail to be reprinted for an additional $10. If the prints are again rejected, a name check is completed and the process will have to be repeated at renewal.
- Provider Connections staff checks both the Illinois Sex Offender Registry and the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website. You do not need to pay a vendor to conduct these searches.