# Texas Department of Family and Protective Services



# Automated Background Check System (ABCS)

**User Guide** 

**Updated November 2016** 

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#### SUMMARY OF ABCS

The Automated Background Check System (ABCS) is used by The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) staff, contractors and subcontractors to electronically submit criminal, as well as abuse and neglect history background check requests for DFPS employees, DFPS volunteers/interns, DFPS contractors for purchased client services (PCS) and individuals not employed by DFPS but have a business need to have direct contact with DFPS information technology resources or facilities (i.e. janitors, security guards).

Due to the confidential nature of DFPS client information and resources, prior to having access to DFPS clients and their records, information technology resources or facilities, all individuals working for DFPS, working under a DFPS contract, or in a capacity that would require access to the above listed resources must have a completed background check with no history that would be a preclusion based on background check types required for their anticipated or existing role with DFPS.

In most cases, individuals submitting background checks in ABCS will be required to submit subsequent background checks on all active employees and volunteers within a given time period established by the specific policy if they continue to serve DFPS in a capacity that requires a background check according to DFPS policy.

Background check types, when applicable, include:

#### ➤ Abuse/Neglect History Check

An Abuse/Neglect History Check is completed for all background checks submitted in ABCS. The type of the Abuse/Neglect History Check completed is based on the individual's anticipated or existing affiliation with DFPS.

- Central Registry check: A search of the Central Registry of reported cases of child abuse and neglect in Texas. The Central Registry is maintained by DFPS and identifies people who have been found by Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, or Child Care Licensing to have abused, neglected, or exploited victims under age 18.
- DFPS History check: A search of the records of abuse/neglect/exploitation investigations in Texas and any services provided as a result of these investigations. These internal records are maintained by DFPS and the search identifies all Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, and Child Care Licensing case documentation that references the specific person, regardless of the person's role or relationship in the case. Not all results found by a DFPS History search will constitute a match for the purpose of a background check, as this is dependent on the policy for that particular population and the parameters that apply.

#### > Texas Criminal History Check

A name-based search of the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) database of crimes committed in Texas.

A Texas DPS Criminal History Check is completed for Purchased Client Services Contractors and Subcontractors.

#### National Criminal History Check

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A fingerprint-based search of both the DPS database of crimes committed in Texas and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) database of crimes committed within the United States.

A Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Background Check Request must be completed for all Purchased Client Services Contractors and Subcontractors who:

- o have lived outside the State of Texas any time during the past five (5) years, or
- o have lived outside the State of Texas in the 24 months since his or her last fingerprint-based criminal history check was completed

An FBI check may also be required for other individuals requiring a criminal history check who have disclosed criminal history in another state or is believed to have criminal history in another state.

#### Out-of-State Abuse/Neglect History Check

A search of another state's records of reported child abuse and neglect cases that identifies people who have been found to have abused or neglected a child. These searches are requested on individuals as part of the process of a home being verified or approved for foster care or adoption. These checks may also be requested for ongoing casework purposes.

An Out-of State Abuse/Neglect History check may be required for Purchased Client Services (PCS) contractors and staff as determined by DFPS, such as a reasonable belief that a PCS contractor or a contractor's staff person may have history in another state.

#### Out-of-State Criminal History Check

A name-based search of Criminal History results requested through the state-wide law enforcement repository for a particular state other than Texas.

An Out-of-State Criminal History Check is required for all individuals not employed by DFPS but have a business need to have direct contact with DFPS information technology resources or facilities who are living outside of Texas or have lived outside of Texas in the last two years.

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#### **HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL**

Effective November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016, ABCS will be accessible only through the Texas Health and Human Services System (HHS) Enterprise portal. The HHS Enterprise Portal is a secure, easy-to-use system that allows you to access or request/modify access to multiple state applications from one site. The portal is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from any computer, tablet or smartphone.

#### REGISTERING FOR AN HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL ACCOUNT

Before accessing ABCS, an account must be initiated and approved in the HHS Enterprise Portal, and access to ABCS for a specific contract requested and granted. If you already have an HHS Enterprise Portal account, skip to <u>Accessing ABCS</u> for instructions on how to gain access to ABCS.

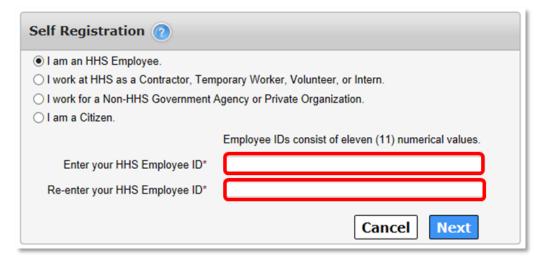
Access the HHS Enterprise Portal welcome page and click **Register** to create an account: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal

Complete the registration process using resources available on the HHS Enterprise Portal Help page for additional guidance:

- Web guided instructions, including video:
   <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/2\_Access\_Portal/Request\_Portal\_Access.htm">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/2\_Access\_Portal/Request\_Portal\_Access.htm</a>
- O Download the user guide labelled *Account Registration and Management* in the User Guide section: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal/Home/portalHome/help

#### > DFPS staff:

- 1. Select I am an HHS Employee
- 2. Enter and Re-enter 11 digit DFPS Employee ID



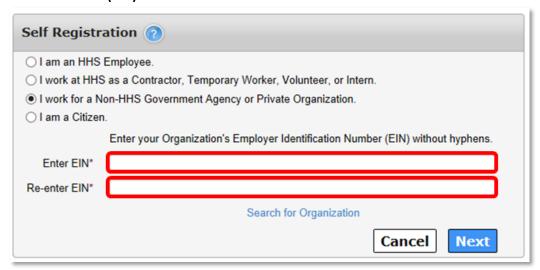
#### All other ABCS users, including external partners:

1. Select I work for a Non-HHS Government Agency or Private Organization

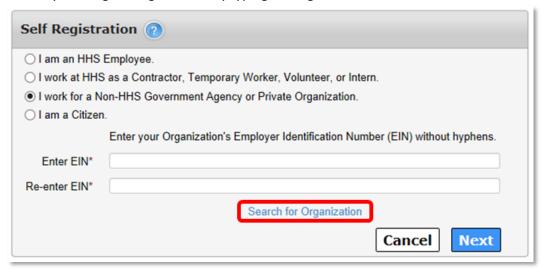
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<sup>\*\*</sup>Please note: When registering utilizing the Self Registration process, roles must be chosen as follows:

2. Enter and Re-enter **Employer Identification Number (EIN)** also known as the **Tax Identification Number (TIN).** 



If EIN or TIN is unknown, organization may also be found utilizing the **Search Organization** feature and manually locating the organization by typing the organization name in the search field.



Once initial registration steps have been completed and the request has been submitted, it must go through an approval process. A request for approval is sent by email to a designated approver within your organization, and may take up to ten days.

- If approved, you will receive an email with a link to the portal, your Username, and a temporary
  Password. Click on the link to the portal and add your Username and temporary Password in the
  fields provided, then select Sign In. You will be required to complete additional registration
  steps before the account is created, including reading and signing the HHS Acceptable Use
  Agreement, creating a new Password and completing security questions for your account.
- If approval is not completed within 10 days, the request will be automatically rejected and a new request must be submitted.

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Once registration has been completed and you are logged into the HHS Enterprise Portal, you may begin requesting access to applications needed, including ABCS. Instructions for requesting access are outlined in Requesting Access to ABCS.

For assistance with the HHS Enterprise Portal: Please contact the HHS Enterprise Portal Help Desk at (512) 438-4720

# **REQUESTING AND ACCESSING ABCS**

#### **REQUESTING ACCESS TO ABCS**

After you have created an HHS Enterprise Portal account, you may request access to ABCS. If you have not completed registration for an HHS Enterprise Portal account, see <u>Registering for an HHS Enterprise</u> Portal account

If you believe you already have access to ABCS but are unsure, see <u>Verifying ABCS access</u> for instructions on how to determine if you already have ABCS access.

- 1. Access the HHS Enterprise Portal at: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal.
- 2. Log into the portal by entering your Username and Password, and selecting Sign In.

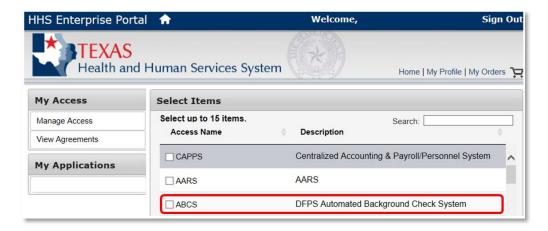


3. Select Manage Access.

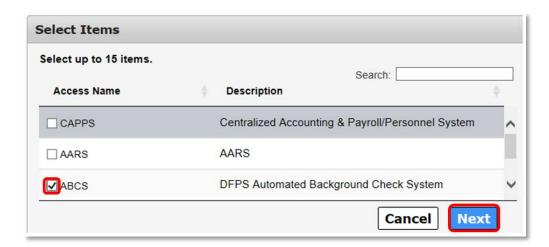


4. Find ABCS by using the scroll bar feature or typing in 'ABCS' into the search field

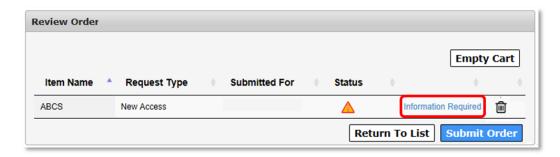
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5. Once ABCS is located, select the check box next to ABCS. After you have made your selection, click **Next**.

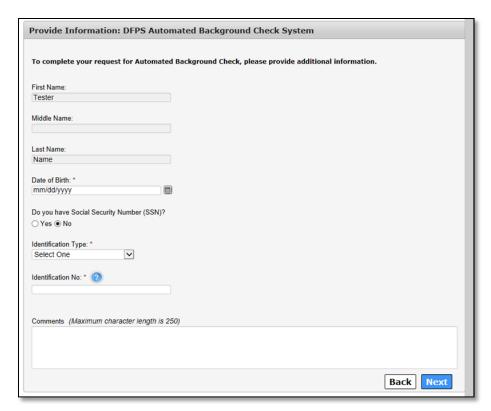


6. A caution symbol in the Status column indicates additional steps are required before submitting the order. Click the **Information Required** link.



7. Enter the additional required information requested and click **Next**.

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- 8. A checkmark in a green circle indicates that the Status is ready to submit.
- 9. Read the agreement and check the box indicating that the request is true and necessary. Click **Submit Order**.



10. Once submitted, a notification informing you that your request is awaiting supervisor approval will be displayed.



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- 11. A notification of your request for access will be sent by email and on the HHS Enterprise Portal notification section for review by the designated approver based on the organization associated with your request.
- 12. You will be notified by email regarding your denial or approval. The access decision will also be displayed in the **My Notifications** section in the HHS Enterprise Portal. If approved, the application will show up under **My Applications**.



<sup>\*</sup>If a request has been pending after 5 days from last assigned, a reminder will be sent to assigned approver. Any request that is pending more than 15 days from the last assigned date will automatically expire requiring the requestor to submit a new request.

#### **VERIFYING ABCS ACCESS**

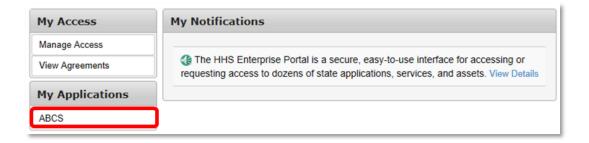
- 1. Access the HHS Enterprise Portal at: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal.
- 2. Enter your Username and Password, and select **Sign In**.
- 3. At the portal Home Page, locate the **My Applications** sections in the left column.
- 4. Once you have been approved for access, you will see ABCS listed under the **My Applications** section.



#### **Accessing the application**

- 1. Once your account has been approved, access the HHS Enterprise Portal at: <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal</a>.
- 2. Enter your Username and Password, and select Sign In.
- 3. Locate ABCS in the My Applications section in the left column
- 4. Click the application to be redirected to the ABCS home page.

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# Approving/Denying access (Contract Designated Approvers Only)

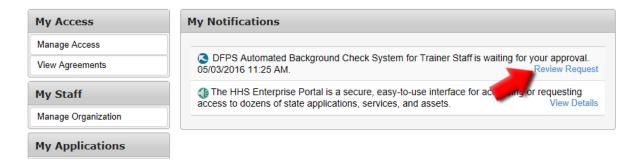
### HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL AND ABCS ACCESS APPROVAL/DENIAL

When a request for access to either the HHS Enterprise Portal or ABCS has been submitted, the designated approver for the organization will receive notification of the request and review required by email. A notification will also be displayed on the HHS Enterprise Portal in the My Notifications section.

If a request has been pending after 5 calendar days from last assigned, a reminder will be sent to the designated approver. Any request that is pending more than 10 calendar days from the last assigned date will automatically expire requiring the requestor to submit a new request.

Instructional resources for approving access to the HHS Enterprise Portal can be located at: <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/Supervisor/Content/5A">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/Supervisor/Content/5A</a> Supervisors/Review Requests.htm

- 1. Access the HHS Enterprise Portal at: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal.
- 2. Enter your Username and Password, and select Sign In.
- 3. At the portal Home Page, locate the access request in the My Notifications section.
- 4. Select **Review Request** to review and make a decision about the request.

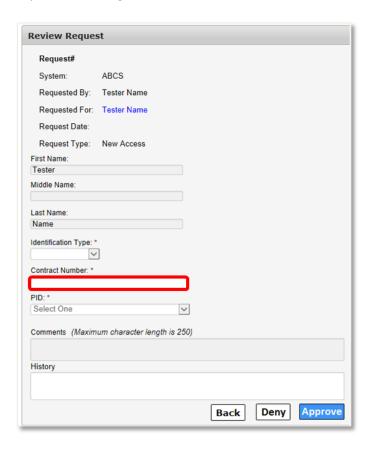


- 5. Review and verify the request is valid.
- 6. Enter required additional information, if applicable

\*\*Please note: Contract Number must be provided for all users and Administrators prior to approval completion indicating what contract the user will have access to in ABCS. If access to ABCS for multiple

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contracts is needed, the individual must create a separate HHS Enterprise Portal account and complete steps for obtaining ABCS access. The additional contract number may be added at the time of approval.



7. After request has been reviewed, make a determination by selecting **Deny** or **Approve**.



<sup>\*\*</sup>Please Note: If denying a request, comments must be provided explaining reason(s) for denial. If

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#### approved, comments are optional.



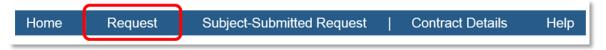
8. Once decision is complete, notification will be sent to the requestor via email and on the HHS Enterprise Portal notifications section regarding the decision made.

## **ABCS FUNCTIONS**

#### **BACKGROUND CHECK REQUEST**

#### **I**NITIATING A BACKGROUND CHECK REQUEST

1. Select Request from the main tab bar



2. Confirm Resource Name, Resource ID, Contract ID, and Contract Email Address for request

Resource Name:
Resource ID:
12345678
98765432
abcstest@dfps.state.tx.us

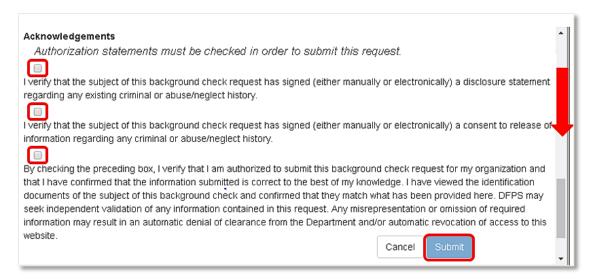
- 3. Complete background check request form. See <u>Background Check Request Form</u> for additional instructions
- 4. Select Next



- 5. Review the Background Check Request confirmation page to confirm background check details being submitted
- 6. Scroll to view authorization statements
- 7. Review authorization statements

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- 8. Once reviewed, select the check box to confirm acknowledgement of each authorization statement
- 9. Select **Submit**



10. Once submitted, the status of the background check request can be viewed on the <u>Active</u> <u>background check history</u> page until processing has been completed.

#### **BACKGROUND CHECK REQUEST FORM**

#### ➤ NAME

- 1. Enter Name of background check subject:
  - First Name (\*required)
  - Middle Name (if applicable)
  - Last name (\*required)
  - Maiden (if applicable)
  - Name Suffix (i.e. Junior, Senior) (if applicable)

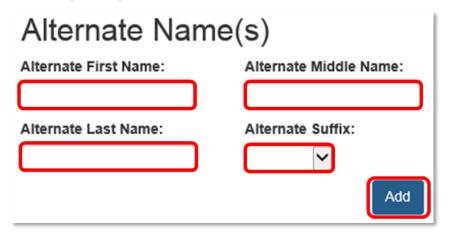


#### ALTERNATE NAME

If the background check subject has used additional variations of their name at any point in the past, they must be entered in the Alternate Name section. Alternate names include prior last names, nicknames, etc.

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- 1. Enter **Alternate Name(s)** of background check subject including: First name, Middle name, Last name, Suffix, as applicable
- 2. Select Add
- 3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for all alternate names



4. View added alternate name(s)



5. Edit/Delete alternate name(s) as needed utilizing corresponding Edit/Delete buttons displayed



#### > SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER/ALTERNATE NUMBER

In order to submit the background check, a Social Security Number (SSN) or Alternate Number for identification verification must be provided. If the background check subject does not have a SSN, an alternate form of identification may be provided. Options for alternate identification are listed below.

 Select appropriate radio button to question indicating whether subject of background check has a SSN. \* If individual has a valid SSN, you must select Yes\*

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Social Security Number
If this person has been issued a Social Security Number (SSN), it must be provided to ensure the background check result is valid. If this person does not have a SSN, you must enter a valid alternate number type.
* Does this person have a Social Security Number? O Yes O No
A. If Yes, enter and confirm <b>Social Security Number</b> in text boxes provided ensuring number is provided in the format requested
* Does this person have a Social Security Number?   Yes O No
* Social Security Number: 111-11-1111
B. If No, an Alternate Number for identification verification must be provided
1. Select desired alternate identification option from the Alternate Number Type
drop-down
o Canadian SIN
<ul> <li>Driver's License Number</li> </ul>
o Military ID
<ul> <li>Passport Number</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Permanent Resident Card Number</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>State Identification Number</li> </ul>
<ol><li>Enter and confirm Alternate Number in the text boxes provided</li></ol>
Alternate Number *Alternate Number Type:

#### > STATE IDENTIFICATION

\* Alternate Number:

If the background check subject has a driver's license or state issued identification that was not provided as an alternate identification number, it may be entered in the State Identification section. Providing the driver's license or state issued identification number will further assist the Centralized Background Check Unit staff when processing the results of the background check.

\* Confirm Alternate Number:

- 1. Select State ID Type
  - o Driver's License
  - o State Issued ID
- 2. Enter **ID** #
- 3. Select ID State

State Ide	entification			
State ID Type:	<u> </u>	ID #:	ID State:	

#### BIRTH INFORMATION

- 1. Enter Birth Date (\*required) of background check subject
- 2. Select Gender (\*required) of background check subject
- 3. Enter **Birth City** of background check subject
- 4. Enter Birth State of background check subject



#### > RACE/ETHNICITY

- 1. Select Ethnicity (\*required) of background check subject
  - Declined to Indicate
  - o Hispanic
  - Not Hispanic
  - o Unable to Determine
- 2. Select identified Race(s) (\*required) of background check subject



#### CONTRACT INFORMATION

- Select External User Type (\*required) of background check subject, if not already predetermined
  - Applicant (DFPS New Hires)
  - o County
  - o Intern
  - Other State Agency
  - o Outsourced
  - Service Provider (PCS)
  - Vendor (External User/HHSC Vendors)
  - Volunteer (DFPS Volunteers/External Volunteer Agencies)
- 2. Enter specific Role/Job Duty (\*required) of background check subject
- 3. Enter **Department ID** (DFPS New Hires only)
- 4. Enter **Requisition Number** (DFPS New Hires only)
- 5. Enter HHSC Purchase Order Number (HHSC Janitor/Security Guard Vendor Checks only)

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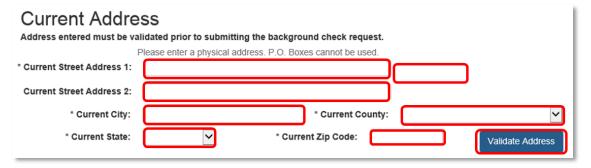


6. Select appropriate radio button to question indicating whether subject of background check is eligible for DFPS Case Connection access (\*CASA only)

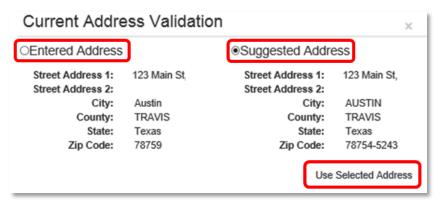
* Eligible for DFPS Case Connection?	0	Yes	0	No	)
					_

#### CURRENT ADDRESS

- Enter current physical residence address of background check subject as Current Street Address
- 2. Enter additional address information as Current Street Address 2 (i.e. Apt. #, Ste #, etc.)
- 3. Enter Current City
- 4. Select Current County
- 5. Select Current State
- 6. Enter Current Zip Code
- 7. Select Validate Address



- 8. Select the appropriate radio button in the pop-up window confirming address selection entered or using a suggested address
- 9. Select Use Selected Address



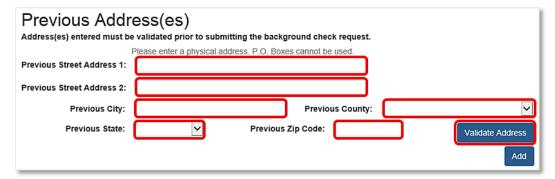
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- 10. Select appropriate radio button to question, if displayed, indicating whether subject of background check has lived outside of Texas in a designated period of time. By answering 'Yes' to the listed question, the individual must complete additional
  - 2 years (External Access or HHSC Vendors)- FBI fingerprint or Out of State Criminal History check is required

* Has this person lived outside of Texas in the last 2 years?	0	Yes	0	No
o 5 years (DFPS Contractors)- FBI fingerpr	int cl	neck i	is rec	luired
* Has this person lived outside of Texas in the last 5 years?	0	Yes	0	No

#### PREVIOUS ADDRESS(ES)

- Enter previous physical residence address of background check subject as Previous Street Address 1
- 2. Enter additional address information as Previous Street Address 2 (i.e. Apt. #, Ste #, etc.)
- 3. Enter **Previous City**
- 4. Select Previous County
- 5. Select Previous State
- 6. Enter Previous Zip Code
- 7. Select Validate Address



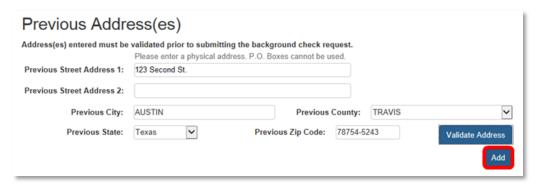
- 8. Select the appropriate radio button in the pop-up window confirming address selection entered or using a suggested address
- 9. Select Use Selected Address



10. Select Add

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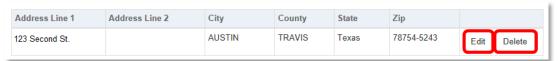
\*\*Please note: You MUST select Add to save the address to the address history



- 11. Repeat steps 1-10 for all Previous Address(es)
- 12. View address(es) added



13. Edit/Delete address(s) as needed utilizing corresponding Edit/Delete buttons displayed

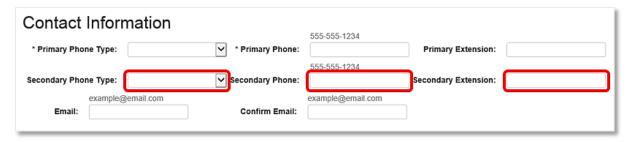


#### CONTACT INFORMATION

- 1. Select **Primary Phone Type** of background check subject (\*required)
- 2. Enter **Primary Phone Number** of background check subject (\*required)
- 3. Enter **Primary Phone Extension** of background check subject if applicable)



- 4. Select **Secondary Phone Type** of background check subject (if applicable)
- 5. Enter **Second Phone number** of background check subject (if applicable)
- 6. Enter **Secondary Extension** of background check subject (if applicable)



7. Enter and confirm **Email** address of background check subject (\*required for certain populations)



- 8. If FBI fingerprints are required, select the preferred contact method for fingerprint scheduling of the background check subject.
- \*\*Please note: The contact method selection made will be by the background check subject when making an appointment for fingerprinting.



#### PURCHASED CLIENT SERVICES ONLY

This section is required and viewable only for background check subjects who are or will be working as a DFPS contractor providing purchased client services to DFPS clients.

- 1. Complete question selecting the Yes or No radio button indicating whether the background check subject will be providing transportation to DFPS clients
- 2. Complete disclosure questions 1-3 selecting the Yes or No radio button for each question



#### **EDITING A PENDING BACKGROUND CHECK OR RE-LAUNCHING A RENEWAL BACKGROUND CHECK REQUEST**

- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Locate the row of the Subject's record you would like to edit using the scroll bar or typing the name of the subject in the search field



3. Once located, click Edit

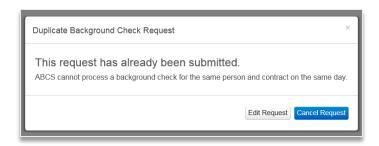


- 4. Update background check information, as needed
- 5. Complete Background Check request

#### **DUPLICATE BACKGROUND CHECK REQUEST**

An individual may only have one background check submitted under a specific contract per day. When identification information provided with a background check (SSN/DOB or Alternate ID/DOB) matches the same combination of identifiers of a background check record in Successful Submission status for the **same** contract with the same submission date, the following Duplicate Background Check Request message will display:

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#### **SUBJECT-SUBMITTED REQUEST**

A subject-submitted request may be completed allowing the subject of the background check to enter identification information required to complete the background check. The contractor is required to verify information entered by the subject.

#### **INITIATING A SUBJECT-SUBMITTED REQUEST**

1. Select Subject-Submitted Request from the main tab bar



Confirm Resource Name, Resource ID, Contract ID, and Contract Email Address to submit request

Resource Name:
Resource ID:
Contract ID:
Email Address:

ABC Contractor
12345678
98765432
abcstest@dfps.state.tx.us

- 3. Enter background check **Subject First Name** in the field provided
- 4. Enter background check **Subject Last Name** in the field provided
- 5. Enter and confirm background check Subject Email address in the fields provided
- 6. Review the authorization statement and select the check box to confirm agreement
- 7. Select Submit



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Once submitted, the background check subject will receive an email containing a hyperlink to complete the background check request.

\*\*Please note: The hyperlink sent to the background check subject will remain active for 7 calendar days from the submittal date. If not accessed and completed within 7 days, the link will become inactive and a new subject-submitted request must be initiated.

#### **VIEWING PENDING SUBJECT-SUBMITTED REQUESTS**

Until a subject-submitted request is accessed or the request expires, the details of the request can be viewed on the Pending Subject-Submitted request page.

1. Select Subject-Submitted Request



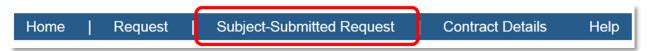
- 2. Scroll to view the Subject-Submitted Requests history
- 3. Select tab labelled Pending
- 4. View pending subject-submitted requests displaying details of request including background check subject First Name, Last Name, and Email, along with the name of the Requestor and the Date the request was sent



#### VIEWING EXPIRED SUBJECT-SUBMITTED REQUESTS

When a background check link has not been completed by the subject within 7 days of when it was sent, the background check hyperlink provided in the email will no longer be active. If a background check is still needed for the individual, the provider must send a new subject-submitted request link or initiate the background check directly in ABCS.

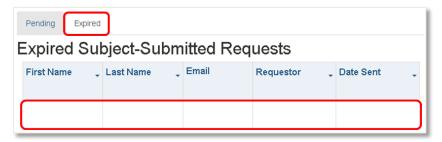
1. Select Subject-Submitted Request



2. Scroll to view the Subject-Submitted Requests history

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- 3. Select tab labelled Expired
- 4. View expired subject-submitted requests displaying details of request including background check subject First Name, Last Name, and Email, along with the name of the Requestor and the Date the request was sent



#### **COMPLETING A BACKGROUND CHECK REQUEST USING THE SUBJECT-SUBMITTED EMAIL**

- The background check subject will receive an email from a DFPS email address titled: DFPS
   Background Check Notification Doe, Jane- Subject-Submitted Request
- 2. The background check subject must read the email and locate the hyperlink to begin the background check submittal process
- 3. Click hyperlink in email to begin background check request

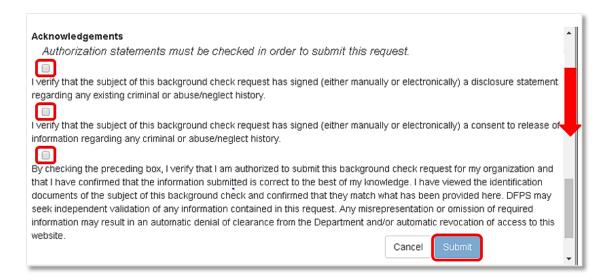
By selecting the hyperlink below, you can begin the process of submitting your own criminal and/or abuse and neglect background check information. https://dfpstest/portal/abcs/ssrequest?subjectRequest

- 1. The individual must then complete the background check request form. Advise individual to Background Check Request Form section of this user guide for additional instructions
- 2. Select Next



- 3. The individual will review the Background Check Request confirmation page to confirm background check details being submitted
- 4. The individual must scroll to view authorization statements
- 5. Review authorization statements
- 6. Once reviewed, the individual must select the check box to confirm acknowledgement of each authorization statement
- 7. Select Submit

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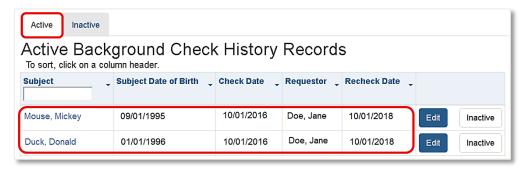
The background check has now been submitted. Once completed, confirmation of the background check submittal can be viewed by the ABCS user on the ABCS home page for the contract in the **Active Background Check History Records** section.

#### Managing Background Checks

From the ABCS Home page, a summary of background check history records will display in two separate tabs, Active or Inactive, as determined by ABCS users and/or DFPS staff. An Active/Inactive status indicates the status of an individual's background check history record with DFPS. An individual may be inactivated by DFPS staff or the ABCS user when employment has been terminated voluntarily or as the result of the background check. Inactivating an individual's status restricts an individual's ability to work for or with DFPS.

#### VIEWING ACTIVE BACKGROUND CHECK HISTORY RECORDS

- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Select tab labelled Active
- 3. View all Active Background Check History Records displaying:
  - Background check subject name
  - Background check subject Date of Birth
  - Date background check was submitted
  - Individual whom requested background check
  - Date a recheck is due, if applicable



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#### **VIEWING INACTIVE BACKGROUND CHECK HISTORY RECORDS**

When an individual has been deemed to no longer be working or affiliated with a contract and deemed inactive by an ABCS user, DFPS staff member, or the automated background check renewal process, they will be shown on the **Inactive** background check history records page.

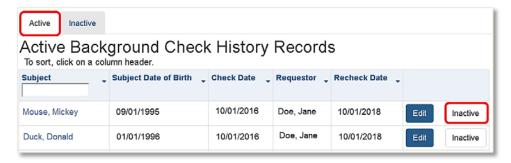
The individual's name, DOB, and last background check date will be displayed, along with the date the individual was deemed inactive, and information regarding who or what set the inactive status.

- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Select tab labelled **Inactive**
- 3. View all Inactive Background Check History Records displaying:
  - o Background check subject name
  - o Background check subject Date of Birth
  - o Date background check was submitted
  - Who/What completed the inactivation
  - Date individual was inactivated



#### **INACTIVATING A BACKGROUND CHECK SUBJECT**

- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Select tab labelled Active
- 3. Locate the row of the Subject's record you would like to inactivate using the scroll bar or typing the name of the subject in the search field
- 4. Select Inactive in the right hand column within the row of the Subject's record to inactivate



5. Confirm inactivation selecting **Inactivate** in the confirmation window

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6. View individual on the Inactive background check history records list



#### REACTIVATING AN INACTIVE BACKGROUND CHECK SUBJECT

- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Select tab labelled Inactive to view Inactive Background Check History Records
- 3. Locate the row of the Subject's record to reactivate using the scroll bar or typing the name of the subject in the search field
- 4. Select Edit



- 5. Update background check information, as needed
- 6. Complete initiation of background check request

#### VIEWING INDIVIDUAL BACKGROUND CHECK HISTORY RECORDS

- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Locate row of Subject's record to view on the applicable Active or Inactive list using the scroll bar or typing the name of the subject in the search field

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3. Once located, click on the individual's name



- 4. View individual's background check history displaying:
  - Background check type
  - Date background check was submitted
  - o Background check status
  - o Date notification background check results were sent
  - o Name of requestor
  - o Date background check renewal check is due
  - o Whether the background check completed using the Subject-Submitted functionality
  - o Contract ID the background check was submitted under
  - Whether any files were uploaded with background check



#### **UPDATING CONTRACT DETAILS**

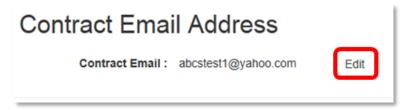
#### UPDATING CONTRACT EMAIL (CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR AND ABCS SUPER USER ONLY)

1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar

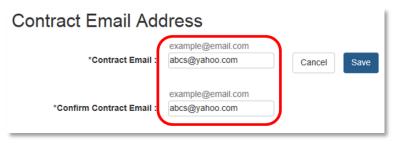


- 2. Scroll to Contract Email Address section
- 3. Select Edit

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4. Enter updated email address in Contract Email and Confirm Contract Email fields



5. Select Save

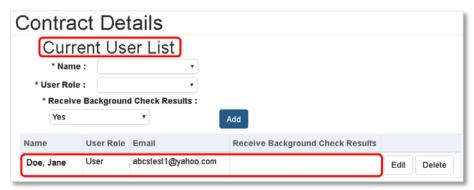


#### **VIEWING CONTRACT ABCS USER LIST**

1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar



- 2. View Current User List of existing users assigned to contract selected displaying:
  - o User Name
  - User Role
  - o User Email Address
  - o Whether the individual is approved to receive background check results



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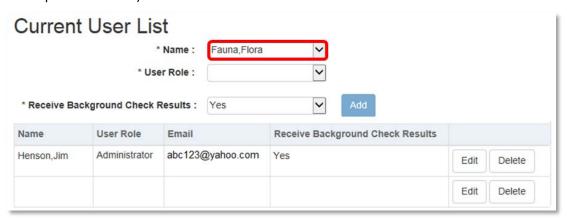
#### ADDING A NEW USER (CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR AND ABCS SUPER USER ONLY)

The Administrator of the account will be responsible for adding users as needed. The Provider's ABCS Account must have at least one (1) Administrator and can have up to six (6) additional users. The option to add a user in ABCS is only applicable after an individual has created and been approved for an HHS Enterprise Portal account, as well as, access to ABCS. All new users to be added to a contract in ABCS must go through the provisioning process obtaining an HHS Enterprise Portal account and granted for access to the particular contract by the designated approver.

1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar



2. Select the user to add from the **Name** drop-down menu (\*If not listed, ensure user has created and been approved for an HHS Enterprise Portal account, as well as, access to ABCS for the specific contract)

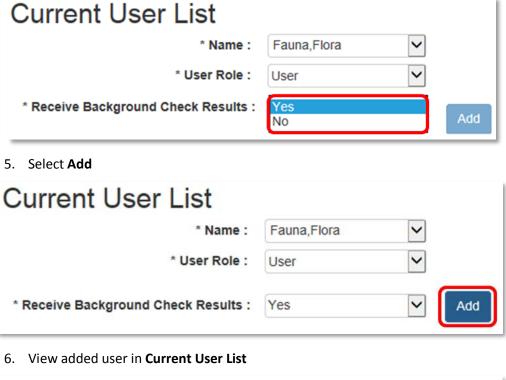


- 3. Select **User Role** for individual (For further description of different user role functions, see <u>ABCS</u> user roles)
  - Administrator
  - o User



4. Select Yes/No regarding whether the individual is approved to Receive Background Check Results for any background checks they submit in ABCS for the contract. (\*If individual is not approved, background check result notifications generated from background check submitted by the user will be sent to the email address listed for the contract)

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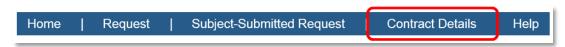
#### DELETING A USER (CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR AND ABCS SUPER USER ONLY)

If the user is no longer employed by the contract, the individual must be inactivated using the <a href="Inactivating a background check subject">Inactivating a background check subject</a> process, which will automatically delete and remove an individual from the user list if the individual had access to ABCS.

When a user is still employed by or affiliated with the contract but is no longer authorized to submit or view information regarding background checks for the contract, he/she must be deleted as a user on the account by the Administrator. In addition, if the user had access to the email address on file for the contract, steps must be taken to ensure security of the email account is protected.

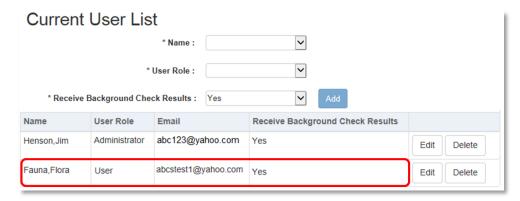
If the user was approved for access on multiple contracts, they must be removed or inactivated on each contract they were granted access to.

1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar



2. Locate user to be deleted from the Current User List

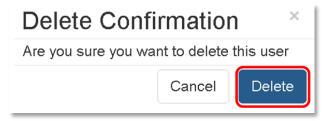
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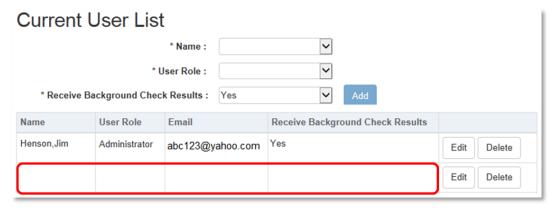
3. Select Delete



4. Confirm deletion selecting **Delete** in confirmation window

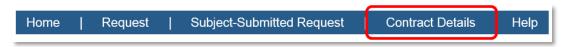


5. View user removed from Current User List



### MANAGING USER LEVEL OF ACCESS (CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR AND ABCS SUPER USER ONLY)

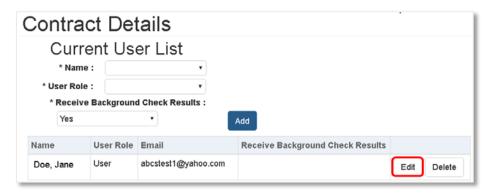
1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar



2. Locate row of user to be edited from the Current User List

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#### 3. Select Edit



- 4. Update user information, as needed:
  - o User Role
  - Ability to receive background check results



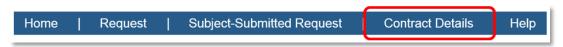
#### 5. Select Save



#### LINKING CONTRACTS (CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR AND ABCS SUPER USER ONLY)

Linking contracts in ABCS allows users who are assigned as an Administrator or user on multiple contracts to view background check history for multiple contracts with one login.

- \*\*If a background check needs to be submitted for an individual on a specific contract, you must be logged into the HHS Enterprise Portal account for that specific contract.
- 1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar



- 2. Scroll to **Linked Contracts** section
- 3. Enter the contract ID to be linked in the Link to Contract ID text field

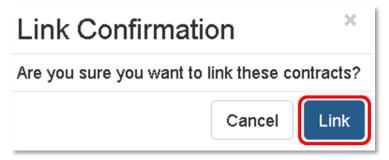


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4. Select Link



5. Confirm entry by selecting **Link** in the confirmation window



6. Linked contracts are now displayed by Contract ID in the Linked Contracts section



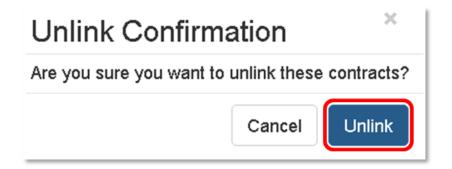
#### UNLINKING CONTRACTS (CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR AND ABCS SUPER USER ONLY)

- 1. Select Contract Details from the ABCS menu bar
- 2. Scroll to Linked Contracts section
- 3. Locate contract ID to be unlinked
- 4. Select Unlink



5. Confirm entry by selecting **Unlink** in the confirmation window

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#### **BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS**

#### **RECEIVING BACKGROUND CHECK RESULTS**

All background check notices are sent by email to the user who initiated the background check if the individual has been identified by the Administrator as eligible to receive background check results. If the individual who requested the background check is not eligible to receive background check results, background check notices will be sent to the main email address for the contract.

- If no criminal or abuse and neglect history is found, a clearance email is sent from DFPS for the DPS criminal history check, from DFPS for the abuse and neglect history check, and if requested from DFPS for the FBI criminal history check.
- o If results of the background check preclude the individual, an email is sent indicating the individual is ineligible.
- o If results requiring further action are received, an email notice is sent from DFPS giving further information regarding what is required, a due date, and how information can be provided.

#### **UPLOADING DOCUMENTS**

If additional information is required, an email will be sent indicating a need for additional documentation. Documents required may be uploaded by selecting the hyperlink provided in the email notification or accessing the upload functionality in ABCS.

\*\*Please note: The hyperlink provided in the result notification email will expire 30 days from the date of the notice and will no longer be accessible. If the documents need to be submitted after the deadline, you must upload documents directly in ABCS or contact CBCU for further instructions.

#### ACCESSING DOCUMENT UPLOAD FROM ACTION REQUIRED RESULT NOTIFICATION EMAIL

1. Select hyperlink in email received

The requested items can be electronically submitted by the subject of the background check using the link below. Please forward this email to the subject of the background check if you wish to utilize this option. https://dfpstest/portal/abcs/uploadfile?backgroundCheckReqId

2. Continue to Document Upload

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#### **ACCESSING DOCUMENT UPLOAD IN ABCS**

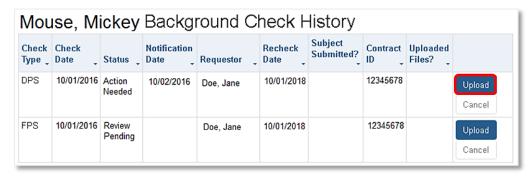
- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Locate the row of the Subject's record requiring documents to be uploaded using the scroll bar or typing the name of the subject in the search field



3. Once located, click on the individual's name



- 4. Locate the type of background check documents are related to
- 5. Select Upload



6. Continue to Document Upload

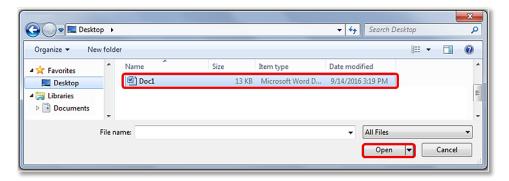
#### **DOCUMENT UPLOAD**

1. Select Browse



- 2. Locate file to upload
- 3. Click on file to upload
- 4. Select Open

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5. Select Upload



6. Confirm file name being uploaded is correct and click **OK** in the confirmation window. \*\***Please note:** Once a file has been uploaded, it cannot be deleted in ABCS\*\*



7. Once file upload has completed, a checkmark in a green circle will display confirming file upload was successful



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#### **TROUBLESHOOTING**

#### **ABCS HELP**

Additional ABCS guidance is located within the ABCS system by using the Help feature on the main tab bar. The ABCS Help section provides overview descriptions of the various ABCS pages and functionality.

1. Select Help from the ABCS main tab bar



2. Use the table of contents for easy navigation to the ABCS functionality desired

#### **ABCS** USER ROLES

ABCS has three user role types: User, Administrator, and Super User. Available functionality within ABCS is based on user role. A summary of the functions available for each user role is outlined below.

Role Type	ABCS functions available				
User	<ul> <li>Submit background checks</li> <li>Initiate a subject-submitted background check request</li> <li>View background check submittal history, including processing status</li> <li>Receive background check results (if approved)</li> <li>Upload documents</li> </ul>				
Administrator	**All user functions plus:				
	<ul> <li>Add or Delete a user or administrator</li> <li>Edit a current user or administrator's user Role and their ability to Receive Background Check Results</li> <li>Edit contract details</li> <li>Edit the email address associated to the contract</li> <li>Link/Unlink Contracts</li> </ul>				
Super User	**All user and administrator functions plus:				
(DFPS Staff only)	<ul> <li>Register a new contract in ABCS</li> <li>Edit contract type</li> <li>View background check submittal history, including processing status and background check determination status displayed by individual background check type requested</li> </ul>				

#### **LOGGING OUT OF ABCS**

1. Select **Logout** in the upper right hand corner of the ABCS application



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#### **CONTACT US**

For assistance with the HHS Enterprise Portal: Please contact the HHS Enterprise Portal Help Desk at (512) 438-4720

For technical assistance with accessing the Automated Background Check System (ABCS), please contact the CBCU Support Line at: (800) 645-7549. The support line is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time.

For assistance with interpreting background check policies, results, or other background check related questions:

- View the DFPS Background Checks website at: <a href="http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Background\_Checks">http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Background\_Checks</a>,
   or
- Send an email to the CBCU Background Checks mailbox at: <u>AskCBCU@dfps.state.tx.us</u>

# **APPENDIX A: BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY REFERENCES**

Policy references are located in the Centralized Background Check Unit (CBCU) handbook on the DFPS public website. The handbook can be accessed at: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/handbooks/CBCU/default.asp

Policies within the CBCU handbook are outlined by each population group CBCU provides background check resources for.

#### APPENDIX B: DFPS STAFF USE ONLY

#### **SETTING UP AN INITIAL USER FOR A CONTRACT**

When a new contract is being created that requires the submission of background checks in ABCS for DFPS employees, DFPS volunteers/interns, DFPS contractors for purchased client services (PCS) or individuals not employed by DFPS but have a business need to have direct contact with DFPS information technology resources or facilities (i.e. janitors, security guards), several steps must be completed before a background check can be submitted in ABCS under the newly created contract. If individuals outside of DFPS will be accessing ABCS to submit background checks for the contract, several additional steps must be completed before the initial user for the contract can access ABCS and begin submitting background check or approving additional users for the organization.

- Create resource and contract in IMPACT
- 2. Register Contract in ABCS
- 3. Begin submitting background checks in ABCS. \*\*If external users outside of DFPS will be added to ABCS on the contract, submit background check for initial requested user in ABCS under new contract and continue steps 4-9.
- 4. Add Organization to the HHS Enterprise Portal using the resources linked below for guidance
- 5. Advise identified initial ABCS user for the contract to request access to the HHS Enterprise Portal
- 6. Agency sponsor must approve access to HHS Enterprise Portal

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- 7. Advise identified initial ABCS user for the contract to request access to ABCS
- 8. Agency sponsor approves access to ABCS using steps as outlined in the <a href="Approving/Denying">Approving/Denying</a> access section of this user guide
- 9. Edit designated approver for contract in ABCS adding contract administrator (for additional guidance, resources are available on the <a href="https://example.com/html/>HHS Enterprise Portal Help page">HHS Enterprise Portal Help page</a>

#### **ADDING A NEW ORGANIZATION IN HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL**

After a contract has been created in IMPACT and added to ABCS, if external users will be accessing ABCS to submit background checks for the contract, additional steps must completed to setup the first user. *If the organization does not currently exist in the HHS Enterprise Portal*, DFPS staff must add the organization before a user can be added to the contract in ABCS. The ability to add an organization to the HHS Enterprise Portal is based on the staff security profile. If you do not have the ability to add an organization to the HHS Enterprise Portal, create a ticket requesting access by contacting the HHS Enterprise Portal Help Desk at: 512-438-4720

Instructional resources for adding a new organization to the HHS Enterprise Portal can be located at:

- Web guided instructions:
   <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/ManagePartnerOrganiz">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/ManagePartnerOrganiz</a> ations.htm
- O Download the user guide labelled *Manage Partner Organizations and Approvers* in the User Guide section: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal/Home/portalHome/help

#### **REGISTER CONTRACT IN ABCS**

After a contract has been created in IMPACT the **Register Contract** page is used to allow Super Users to register the contract in ABCS to begin submitting background checks in ABCS under the contract.

- 1. Log in to the HHS Enterprise Portal and open ABCS
- 2. Select Register Contract tab

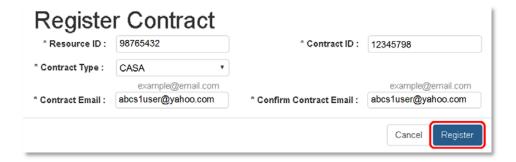


- 3. Enter **Resource ID** as displayed in IMPACT
- 4. Enter **Contract ID** as displayed in IMPACT
- Select Contract Type (CASA, DADS, DFPS New Hire, DFPS Volunteer, External Access Users, External Volunteer Agencies, HHSC Vendors, PCS, Other)
- 6. Enter and confirm Contract Email

Register	r Contract		
^ Resource ID :		* Contract ID :	
* Contract Type :	•		
* Contract Email :	example@email.com	^ Confirm Contract Email :	example@email.com
			Cancel Register

7. Select Register

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#### **ADDING A DESIGNATED APPROVER FOR A CONTRACT**

When a minimum of one user has been added to a contract in the HHS Enterprise Portal, an external approver can be added to the organization.

Instructional resources on adding a designated approver to the HHS Enterprise Portal can be located at:

- Web guided instructions:
   <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/ManagePartnerOrganizations.htm">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/ManagePartnerOrganizations.htm</a>
- o Download the user guide labelled *Manage Partner Organizations and Approvers* in the User Guide section: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal/Home/portalHome/help

#### **SELECTING A CONTRACT**

When accessing ABCS as a super user, a specific contract must be searched to complete any actions or view background check history.

1. Begin entering Contract ID in the **Select Contract** field on the ABCS Home page



2. Select contract by clicking the contract number in the **Contract ID** column



3. View selected contract details on ABCS Home page

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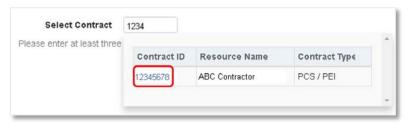


#### **EDITING CONTRACT TYPE**

1. Enter contract number in **Select Contract** field on the ABCS home page



2. Select contract in pop-up window by clicking the contract number in the Contract ID column



3. Select Contract Details tab



- 4. Scroll to Contract Type
- 5. Select Edit



- 6. Update **Contract Type** drop down
- 7. Select Save



#### VIEWING BACKGROUND CHECK DETERMINATION

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Users with a Super User role have the ability to see additional details of the final determination for each background check type.

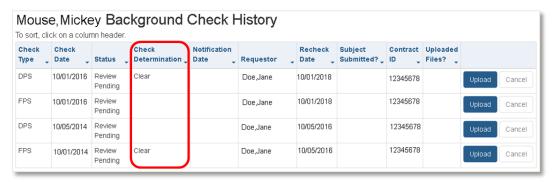
- 1. From the ABCS home page, scroll to the Active Background Check History Records section
- 2. Locate Subject on either Active/Inactive list using the scroll bar or typing the name of the subject in the search field



3. Once located, click on the individual's name



4. View background check history with added column displaying determination status



# **APPENDIX C: HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT**

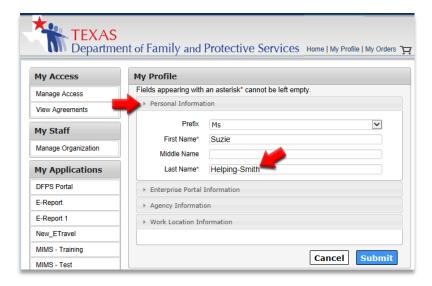
#### MANAGING HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL PROFILE

1. Sign in to the portal and select My Profile.

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- 2. To change your Password or security questions, select the link at the top of the HHS Enterprise Portal Home Page labelled **My Profile**.
- 3. You can add, remove, or modify data in fields that have been enabled. Click **Submit** when you have completed your changes.



#### FORGOT HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL USERNAME

1. Select Forgot Username? on the portal Welcome page.



2. Enter the email assigned to your account and select **Next**.



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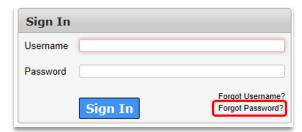
- 3. Enter answers to the security questions and select **Next**.
- 4. The portal will display your Username. Return to the portal login page to sign in using the Username provided or continue to <u>Forgot Password</u> to reset Password.

#### Additional resource(s):

- Web guided instructions, including video: <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/2\_Access\_Portal/Usernames.htm">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/2\_Access\_Portal/Usernames.htm</a>
- o Download the user guide labelled *Account Registration and Management* in the User Guide section: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal/Home/portalHome/help

#### FORGOT HHS ENTERPRISE PORTAL PASSWORD

1. Select Forgot Password? on the portal Welcome page.



2. Enter your portal Username and select Next.



- 3. You will receive an email with a temporary Password.
- 4. Return to the portal login page to sign in to the portal with the temporary Password provided in the email you received.
- 5. Once you have successfully logged in using the temporary Password, follow the instructions to change your Password.

#### Additional resource(s):

- Web guided instructions, including video: <a href="https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/2\_Access\_Portal/Passwords.htm">https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/helpGuide/UnauthenticatedUser/Content/2\_Access\_Portal/Passwords.htm</a>
- o Download the user guide labelled *Account Registration and Management* in the User Guide section: https://hhsportal.hhs.state.tx.us/iam/portal/Home/portalHome/help

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