

Youth Protection Policy and Procedures Frequently Ask Questions & Answers

1. What is the first step that a Lion should do when considering working with youth through Lions?

A: Go to MD4 California Lions Website at:

<https://md4lions.org/youth-protection-policy>

Become familiar with manual and all procedures listed. If you have any questions, contact your Area Youth Protection Officer.

2. Do Lions in our club who do transport for the Lions All-Star- Football for the dinner that the Lions Club usually does for the team have to be cleared through the Lions Youth Protection Program?

A: Yes, if it is not school based – Refer to Youth Protection Policy & Procedures – Page 3 under Types of Volunteer Contact with Youth – Infrequent or Occasional Contact

1. Sometimes we have retired teachers who go into the schools to do Flag Day with the kids. They are not alone with kids, but would they have to go through the Lions Child Protection Program to do in school presentations?

A: No, they do not have to go through the Lions Youth Protection clearances. The volunteer is in a classroom setting in the presence of the teacher of record.

2. Does a retired police officer, teacher, clergy, fire fighter, etc. need to go through clearances?

A. Yes/No: Being a retired official is not relevant, it is based on frequent or occasional contact. Refer to Youth Protection Policy & Procedures – Page 3 under Types of Volunteer Contact with Youth – Infrequent or Occasional Contact

3. When we are done with submitting all the documentation and pass everything, do we get a certificate to present saying that we have clearance to work with youth?

A: Yes, a Certificate of Compliance will be issued by the Area Youth Protection Officer.

4. How does the Youth Protection Policy work with Lions Camp if we have club members who go to Camp to cook? Do they need to go through the Youth Protection Training and pass to be able to cook at Camp?

A: Yes, if they are alone with the youth and/or supervising them.

A: No, if they are only cooking and have no supervisory responsibilities and not alone with youth.

5. Who is responsible for making sure all camp staff/faculty are cleared?

A: The District Endorsed Camp entity is responsible for providing youth protection clearances to the District Youth Protection Officer. (For example: California Lions Camp – Camp Pacifica and Lions Camps at Teresita Pines.)

6. Sometimes Youth are in the public-school system up to the age of 21 if they have special needs. If they are going to Camp as a part of the Leos Club for training, do they need to be cleared through the Lions Child Protection Program? Our Leos Club is through an alternate education program so this could be an issue.

A: PDG Manny is waiting to receive information from the state.

7. Does a Youth Exchange student who are 18 years or older staying with a Host Family need to be cleared under the Youth Protection Policy?

A: No. The Youth Exchange student is a guest from a foreign country.

8. Does everyone 18 years and older living in a Host Family home need to be cleared under the Youth Protection Policy?

A: Yes. Every one living in a Host Family home that is 18 years or older needs to be cleared under the Youth Protection Policy. In the United States all individuals 18 years and older (even if they are in High School) are considered adults.

9. Which Boy Scout Training are we supposed to take basic (45 min) or advanced (72min)?

A: Advanced (72 Minute)

10. Our Leo Advisors for our Lions Club are the Vice Principal at the high school and another teacher who is on the staff of the school where the Leo Club is located. Both are fingerprinted through the school district and would be covered to transport kids and supervise kids off campus because they work for the school district. Do they need to go through Lions Youth Protection Training?

A: No, it is a school based extra-curricular activity – Refer to Youth Protection Policy, Page 2 under Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth.

11. Can an adult take a youth just a short distance in a car without becoming a Lions Youth Leader?

A: No -- There must be a designated Lion Youth Leader, who must also have a Driver's License and Insurance on file. Refer to Youth Protection Policy & Procedures – Page 3 under Types of Volunteer Contact with Youth – Infrequent or Occasional Contact

12. Do Lions working in a school-based Leo program need to be designated as Lion Youth Leaders?

A: No, Refer to Youth Protection Policy, Page 2 under Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth.

13. Who keeps records for the volunteers?

A: Sterling Volunteers maintains all confidential background clearance information.

Area Youth Protection Officers maintain roster of all cleared Youth Volunteers in their Area along with TB Test Clearances, Driver's License & Insurance expiration dates & training certificate. District Youth Protection Officers need to forward expirations dates of volunteer's TB Test Clearance, Driver's License & Insurance.

District and Club Youth Protections Officers maintain all other information such as Volunteer Applications, TB Test, Driver's License, Insurance and Reference Checks.

District and Club Youth Protection Officers are encouraged to scan all documents and maintain all volunteer information on an encrypted flash drive. It is not recommended to keep a hard copy of confidential information.

14. What do you put under Affiliated Organization for Sterling Volunteers?

A: Enter your District – For example: District 4 L5

15. Who is responsible for conducting Personal & if applicable Employment Reference checks?

A: It is up to the District Governor to set up. Reference Checks can be done by the District Youth Protection Officer or the Club Youth Protection Officer. Refer to Youth Protection Policy, Page 4 under Management of Screening Process.

16. Is there a standardize form/template of questions to ask?

A: Refer to Youth Protection Policy, *Appendix D: Sample Personal Reference Questions for Telephone Interview* and *Appendix E: Sample Employment/Volunteer Reference Questions for Telephone Interview*. Yes, you can modify the forms.

17. What do we do with the completed reference checks once they are completed?

A: Upon completion of the volunteer screening process and is certified as a Lions Youth Leader, all reference notes can be destroyed.

18. What happens if there is a negative reference provided by one of the interviewees?

A: Club Youth Protection Officer informs the District Youth Protection Officer and District Governor. If needed, District Governor can refer matter to Area Youth

Protection Officer. If necessary, matter will then be addressed by the MD4 Youth Protection Committee Members.

19. What if someone refuses to provide information on the volunteer applicant?

A: Recommend the Volunteer Applicant inform those listed on the application to make them aware who and why they are being contacted.

20. Considering all the lawsuits of abuse, why is the Boys Scouts of America training selected?

The Boy Scouts of America was chosen because the training is free to anyone who wants to take the training. The training covers the important aspects of protecting youth. The Boy Scouts of America training was not what caused the lawsuits? The lawsuits were the result of the following through on monitoring and follow up on reported allegations of suspected abuse. This responsibility falls to everyone who is a volunteer with youth, Lion Youth Leaders, Clubs, and Districts sponsoring youth programs.