

# TRIBAL BACKGROUND CHECKS



## REQUESTED ACTION

At the 2024 Tribal Consultation meeting, Tribal Leaders requested and DCF committed to inquire with federal, tribal, and state partners see whether the existing Tribal Access Program (TAP) kiosks in tribal communities could be utilized for child care and Head Start background check fingerprinting.

## IDENTIFIED BARRIERS

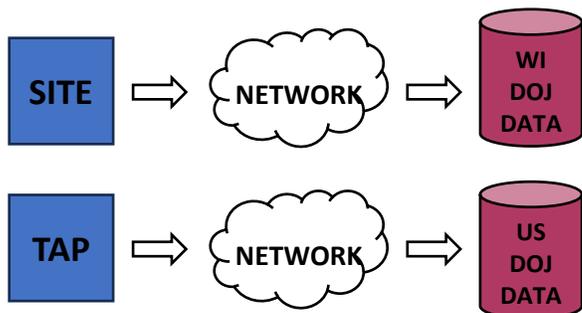
Under the current centralized state background check requirements for child care, individuals must visit a FieldPrint site for background check fingerprinting. Barriers to accessing FieldPrint sites include: transportation, distance, and allowable payment methods.

## WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED SO FAR

In order to use fingerprinting machines for child care background checks, the following conditions must be met:

- Must be approved by the US DOJ
- Must be connected to Wisconsin DOJ database

Currently, TAP kiosks do not connect to the Wisconsin DOJ database. TAP kiosks only have access to the US DOJ database.



More exploration is needed to determine if TAP kiosks can access WI DOJ data.

## DCF NEXT STEPS

DCF will continue to partner with Tribal Nations in exploring ways to make child care and Head Start fingerprinting more accessible for tribal community members. This may include the following action steps:

- WI DOA, in partnership with DCF and WI DOJ, requests to meet with Tribal IT leaders to discuss TAP kiosk data and accessibility.
- DCF will explore whether other machines operated by Tribal Nations or the surrounding community could be an option for fingerprinting.
- DCF will continue to meet with other state agencies to research alternative options that could support increasing access to fingerprinting.
- DCF may reach out to Tribal Nations for information and to discuss options.

*DCF remains committed to our partnership with Tribal Nations to explore meaningful solutions to this issue.*

