

## **Higher Things, Inc, ®**

Dec. 2, 2022,

Greetings in the name of the Lord!

We at <u>Higher Things</u> are so excited for this summer's Beyond Reasonable Doubt Conferences! I know that you're knee deep in fundraisers, group meetings, and all that goes into planning a youth trip. Thank you for all that you do to bring your youth to Higher Things Events!

Higher Things has an adult background check policy, <u>found here</u> on page 4, which was made public when registration packets were released in October. We appreciate your willingness to comply with this policy, acknowledging that the safety of the youth that are entrusted to us is important. Many predators take advantage of church programs that are more lax than they should be when it comes to checking those involved with our youth.

We will accept background checks from three places:

<u>Protect My Ministry</u> - Higher Things has an account with this organization in order to provide an easy way for you to complete the requirement. Click the link, fill out the form, and pay approximately \$20.00 per background check. The checks will then be sent directly to Higher Things, and you will only be contacted if there is a problem or concern with your report. If your church has an account with Protect My Ministry, you may give us a background check already completed through them as long as it is a National Criminal and Sexual Predator check.

<u>Sentry Link</u> - This website will give you what we need for \$19.95. Email a pdf copy of the completed background check to me once finished.

<u>Trusted Employees</u> - This website will give you what we need for \$29.95. Email a pdf copy of the completed background check to me once finished.

You may present a background check that you have from another source. If it meets the requirements, Higher Things will accept it in place of the other three accepted routes. Higher Things does not guarantee that it will be accepted. Please note that FBI background checks will not be accepted because federal background checks are not the same as national background checks.

We suggest that you have your church council or board meet to determine the best process for your congregation. This will be sensitive information that should be handled confidentially. There will also be a small cost associated with it, which your congregation will have to determine how to handle.

In the event that the results of the background check show a "hit", the Higher Things Executive Director will review the individual's report. If the registrant will not be able to attend the conference due to the offense, they will be notified directly and registration will be refunded.

I will need proof that background checks were completed provided to me **no later than May 15th**. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help regarding this matter!





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