Police Background Check
Q&A

What is a police background check?

A police background check is an official document that states whether or not a person has a criminal history (i.e. has this person been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor?). The actual document itself can vary from state to state and from city to city. Some police stations require fingerprints to be taken, while other police stations simply run a check on your name and provide a one-sentence statement on the police department letterhead based upon the results.

Why do I need a police background check?

Just as some educational institutions and places of employment require background checks, internship sites ask that students provide them with this information to ensure that the potential intern has good standing in their community and does not have any outstanding criminal charges.

Where do I get a police background check?

Visit your on-campus police or local police station in your town. Explain that you are required to submit a background check in order to participate in an internship abroad. The process varies between police stations, but often times you will be required to present yourself in person and pay a modest fee to have this police check performed ($5-$20), while in other locations this is done free of charge.

If further questions arise concerning your police background check or any other aspect of your CAPA program please do not hesitate to call the CAPA Student Services Line at 1-800-793-0334