

California Assembly Bill 506 Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is a House of Worship a “Youth Service Organization”?**
 - Although houses of worship are not clearly defined in the definition of a Youth Service Organization, the law should be interpreted broadly as applicable.

- **To whom is it applicable?**
 - An administrator or employee of a public or private youth center, youth recreation program, or youth organization. Also, volunteers, however, “volunteer” means a volunteer with the youth service organization who is 18 years of age or older and who has direct contact with, or supervision of, children for more than 16 hours per month or 32 hours per year.

- **What actions does it require?**
 - **New Training Requirement:**
 - Although not specific re: topics, length, frequency, or record keeping, it does note that organizations **may** utilize the mandated reporter training provided by the Office of Child Abuse Prevention in the State Department of Social Services: <https://mandatedreporterca.com/training>. **This training does not have an online recordkeeping option. This will have to be done manually.**

RECOMMENDATION: We strongly recommend you keep any existing training in place and if you don't have existing training, highly recommend MinistrySafe's training, which includes specific training on spotting groomers. Agency customers receive 50% off here: <http://ms.ministrysafe.com/ccia>.

- **New Background Check Requirement:**
 - Unfortunately, even if you are presently using a background check service other than LiveScan, the AB506 bill requires a LiveScan background check. <https://www.certifixlivescan.com/category/fingerprinting-service-locations/california/>.

RECOMMENDATION: We strongly recommend you keep any existing background check program in place in addition to the LiveScan requirement. See pages 5-8 of the MinistrySafe article included for reasons why.

- **New Policy Provisions:**

- (c) A youth service organization shall develop and implement child abuse prevention policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, both of the following:

- (1) Policies to ensure the reporting of suspected incidents of child abuse to persons or entities outside of the organization, including the reporting required pursuant to Section 11165.9 of the Penal Code.

- (2) Policies requiring, to the greatest extent possible, the presence of at least two mandated reporters whenever administrators, employees, or volunteers are in contact with, or supervising children.

RECOMMENDATION: Assistance with creating and storing policies can be found here:

- <http://ms.ministrysafe.com/ccia>

or

- www.safegatherings.com

- **Will AB506 affect my insurance?**

- *Church Mutual Insurance Company, S.I.* has its own underwriting requirements regarding sexual misconduct prevention and limits of coverage available and offer of binding or renewing coverage. The introduction of CA AB506 has not changed or altered these underwriting requirements.

Please read [MinistrySafe's "Understanding AB506" article](#) for a full and detailed review of the bill.