

# Navigating the Costs of Criminal Record Checks



Criminal record checks are essential for various personal and professional reasons, such as employment, volunteering, or immigration. Understanding the costs associated with these checks, particularly in Canada, is crucial for planning and budgeting. This blog will explore what criminal record checks are, the costs involved, their validity, and how SekCheck can streamline the process for you.

### What is a Criminal Record Check?

A criminal record check is an official document that lists an individual's criminal history. These checks are conducted by law enforcement agencies to verify whether a person has any criminal convictions, outstanding warrants, or pending charges. They are often required for:

- **Employment:** To <u>reduce hiring risks</u>, employers may require a criminal record check to ensure the safety and integrity of their workplace.
- **Volunteering:** Organizations, especially those working with vulnerable populations, often mandate criminal record checks for volunteers.
- **Immigration:** Visa and residency applications typically include a criminal record check as part of the assessment process.
- Adoption: Prospective adoptive parents may need to provide a criminal record check as part of the adoption procedure.

## Costs of Criminal Record Checks in Canada

The costs of criminal record check in Canada can vary depending on the type of check, the issuing authority, and the purpose of the check. Below is a breakdown of the typical costs associated with different types of criminal record checks:

#### Basic Criminal Record Check:

**Cost:** Approximately CAD 20-30

**Details:** This check includes information on criminal convictions that are recorded in the National Repository of Criminal Records. It is commonly used for employment or volunteering purposes.

#### Enhanced Criminal Record Check (with Vulnerable Sector Search):

**Cost:** Approximately CAD 50-75

**Details:** This check includes information on criminal convictions and a search of the Pardoned Sexual Offender Database. It is required for individuals working or volunteering with vulnerable populations such as children or the elderly.

Certified Criminal Record Check (Fingerprint-Based):

Cost: Approximately CAD 75-100

**Details:** This check is based on fingerprints and provides a certified copy of an individual's criminal record. It is often required for immigration, adoption, or certain types of employment.

#### Third-Party Service Providers:

Cost: Varies from service to service

**Details:** Some third-party providers offer expedited or additional services for an extra fee, which can range from CAD 10-50 above the standard costs.

## Validity of Criminal Record Checks

The <u>validity of a criminal record check</u> depends on the purpose for which it is being used and the requirements of the requesting entity. Generally, a criminal record check is considered valid for:

- Employment and Volunteering: Typically valid for 6 to 12 months, but this can vary depending on the employer or organization.
- Immigration: Often requires a check that is no older than 6 months.
- Adoption: Validity can vary, but a recent check is usually required.

It's important to confirm the specific validity requirements with the organization requesting the criminal record check to ensure compliance.

Navigating the process of obtaining a criminal record check can be challenging. So, understanding the costs of criminal record checks in Canada is essential for planning and budgeting. By knowing the types of checks available and their associated costs, you can make informed decisions for your specific needs.

If you are searching for trusted service provider of <u>criminal record checks in</u> <u>Canada</u>, **SekCheck** can help by managing your criminal record check process with professionalism and efficiency.

If you have any further questions, you can reach us directly at **866 549 7779 in Surrey** or **780 466-0313 in Edmonton** or **866 549 7779 in Abbotsford**. We will be happy to assist you and answer any questions you may have.

Source : <u>Navigating the Costs of Criminal Record Checks</u>