

**Pennsylvania**  
**Full Point-of-Contact State**

**Firearm Background Checks Administered By:**

[Pennsylvania State Police- Pennsylvania Instant Check System \(PICS\)](#)

**Identified Background Check Responses:**

Standard NICS Response	POC Response (equivalent)	Explanatory Notes (if any)
Approved	Approved - Waiting Acceptance	Transaction complete, FFL must select computer link to obtain PICS and continue. Firearm may be transferred once PICS obtained.
	Approved – Call PICS	Transaction is approved but FFL must call PICS for the approval number. Firearm may be transferred once PICS obtained.
Delay	Auto processing	Check first submitted, not yet changed to another status. Firearm may not be transferred without approval from PICS.
	Pending/Research/Undetermined	Transaction is awaiting further review by PICS - further background research on the purchaser is required. Firearm may not be transferred without approval from PICS.
Denied	Denied	Transaction was denied by PICS. Firearm can not be transferred.
Cancelled	Approved-Not Delivered	The transaction approval has expired, and the dealer must run a new PICS background check on the purchaser.

**Unique Transaction Number:**

The Pennsylvania State Police issue a unique transaction number with the background check final response. **No firearm may be transferred without an approved response from PICS.**

\* All Federal Firearm Licensees are responsible for verifying whether Background Check alternatives exist in their state of operation ([Permanent Brady Permit Chart](#)) as well as any other applicable state laws affecting firearm transactions ([State Laws & Published Ordinances](#)).