

Allied Health and Nursing Programs Maricopa County Community College District Summary of Criminal Background Check Requirement

(Student Copy)

## **Overview of the Requirements**

In order for students to be admitted to or maintain enrollment in good standing in Maricopa County Community College District's ("MCCCD") Allied Health and Nursing programs ("Programs"), students must provide with their application to a Program all of the following:

- A copy of an Arizona Department of Public Safety Level-One Fingerprint Clearance Card ("Card"). Students are required to pay the cost of applying for the Card. Cards that are NOT Level-One status will not be accepted.
- An original version of the "Criminal Background Check Disclosure Acknowledgement" form attached to this Summary signed by the student.

At all times during enrollment in a Program, students must obtain and maintain BOTH a valid Level-One Fingerprint Clearance Card and passing disposition on supplemental background check performed by MCCCD authorized vendor. Admission requirements related to background checks are subject to change as mandated by clinical experience partners

## **Implementation of the Requirements**

- 1. Students that are denied issuance of a Card may be eligible for a good cause exception through the Arizona Department of Public Safety. It is the student's responsibility to seek that exception directly with the department. Until the student obtains a Card and meets the other requirements for admission, he or she will not be admitted to a Program.
- 2. Students admitted to a Program whose Card is revoked or suspended must notify the Program Director immediately and the student will be removed from the Program in which they have been admitted or are enrolled. Any refund of funds would be made per MCCCD policy.
- 3. The **Criminal Background Check Disclosure Acknowledgement** directs students to disclose on the data collection form of the MCCCD authorized background check vendor all of the requested information as well as any information that the background check may discover. Honesty is important as it demonstrates character. Lack of honesty will be the basis for denial of admission or removal from a Program if the information that should have been disclosed but was not would have resulted in denial of admission. Failure to disclose other types of information constitutes a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and may be subject to sanctions under that Code. Students have a duty to update the information requested on the [background check vendor] data collection form promptly during enrollment in a Program. The [background check vendor] data collection form may ask for the following information but the form may change from time to time:
  - Legal Name
  - Maiden Name
  - Other names used
  - Social Security Number
  - Date of Birth
  - Arrests, charges or convictions of any criminal offenses, even if dismissed or expunged, including dates and details.
  - Pending criminal charges that have been filed against you including dates and details.
  - Participation in a first offender, deferred adjudication or pretrial diversion or other probation program or arrangement where judgment or conviction has been withheld.

The authorized MCCCD background check vendor will be asked to pass or fail each student based on the standards of MCCCD's clinical experience partners that have established the most stringent requirements. The sole recourse of any student who fails the background check and believes that failure may have been in error is with the background check vendor and not MCCCD.



## Allied Health and Nursing Programs Maricopa County Community College District Summary of Criminal Background Check Requirement

(Student Copy)

(Student: Sign and Attach to Application)

All allied health and nursing students who seek to enroll in MCCCD healthcare programs must complete a Criminal Background Check. The outlined criteria have been created based on MCCCD's largest clinical experience hospital partners. These partners have stringent background check standards that preclude MCCCD from assigning students to their sites who cannot meet those standards. In order for MCCCD students to be able to continue to complete clinical experiences at local hospitals, students must meet these standards.

For persons wishing to enroll in a Program the person must meet the following standards:

- Possession of a valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Level One Fingerprint Clearance Card. Students who currently possess a DPS Card that is another level will not be allowed entrance into a health care program. Students are required to pay the cost of obtaining this background check. If the Level-One Fingerprint Clearance Card is revoked or suspended at any time during the admission process or while enrolled in a MCCCD healthcare program a student must notify the Program Director immediately and he or she will be removed from the Program. Please see the "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet for details regarding the DPS Card.
- Each student must provide documentation that he or she has completed and "passed" a MCCCDsupplemental background check through the approved vendor **American DataBank**. Students are required to pay the cost of obtaining this background check. Students whose background checks are more than six months old on the date of beginning a healthcare program must obtain an updated background check. Students who have been in a Program for more than 12 months may be requested to obtain an updated background check. Please see the attached "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet for more details regarding the MCCCD supplemental-background check.
- The MCCCD supplemental or the clinical agency background check may include but are not limited to the following:
  - o Nationwide Federal Healthcare Fraud and Abuse Databases
  - Social Security Verification
  - Residency History
  - Arizona Statewide Criminal Records
  - o Nationwide Criminal Database
  - o Nationwide Sexual Offender Registry
  - Homeland Security Search
- By virtue of the MCCCD supplemental background check, students will be disqualified for admission to a program or continued enrollment in a program based on their criminal offenses, the inability to verify their Social Security number, or their being listed in an exclusionary database of a Federal Agency or on a sex offender registry. Offenses that will lead to a "fail" on the supplemental background check may include but are not limited to:
  - o Social Security Search-Social Security number does not belong to applicant
  - Any inclusion on any registered sex offender database
  - o Any inclusion on any of the Federal exclusion lists or Homeland Security watch list
  - Any conviction of Felony no matter what the age of the conviction
  - o Any criminal arrest warrant in any state

- o Any misdemeanor conviction for the following-No matter age of crime
  - violent crimes
  - sex crime of any kind including non consensual sexual crimes and sexual assault
  - murder, attempted murder
  - abduction
  - assault
  - robbery
  - arson

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- extortion

- burglary
- pandering
- pandering
- any crime against minors, children, vulnerable adults including abuse, neglect, exploitation
- any abuse or neglect
- any fraud
- aggravated DUI
- o Any misdemeanor controlled substance conviction last 7 years (as defined in 21 U.S.C. § 802)
  - Any other misdemeanor convictions within last 2 years, except for non-DUI traffic violations
- Exceptions: Any misdemeanor traffic (DUI is not considered Traffic)
- At all times students are in a program they must maintain BOTH a valid Level-One Fingerprint Clearance Card and passing disposition on the MCCCD supplemental background check performed by the MCCCDauthorized vendor.
- Admission requirements related to background checks are subject to change without notice.
- Some clinical agencies may require additional components of a criminal background check, other than those required by MCCCD, as well as a drug screening. Students are required to pay for any and all criminal background checks and drug screens required by a clinical agency to which they are assigned
- Even though a student possesses a valid DPS Level One Fingerprint Clearance Card and has passed the MCCCD supplemental background check, a clinical agency may decline to place a student due to information the clinical agency obtains in a background check it requires.
- If a clinical agency to which a student has been assigned does not accept the student based on his or her criminal background check, the student may not be able to complete the program.
- MCCCD may, within its discretion, disclose to a clinical agency that a student has been rejected by another clinical agency.
- MCCCD has no obligation to make attempts to place a student when the reasons for lack of placement are criminal background check issues. Since clinical agency assignments are critical requirements for completion of the program, inability to complete required clinical experience due to a student's criminal background check will result in removal from the program.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Student ID Number

Desired Health Care Program