

Criminal Records Checks/Fingerprinting

Subject Requirements

1. Any individual newly hired and not requiring licensure as a teacher, administrator, personnel specialist or school nurse shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal records check and fingerprinting.
2. Individuals applying for reinstatement of a license that has lapsed for more than three years shall be required to undergo such checks.

Requirements, including applicable fees and the process for the collection and submission of fingerprints, etc., will generally be met by the individual as a part of the licensing process and in accordance with rules established by TSPC.

3. Any individual registering with TSPC for student teaching, practicum or internship as a teacher, administrator or personnel specialist shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal records check and fingerprinting with TSPC.
4. Any district contractor, whether part-time or full-time, or an employee of a district contractor, whether part-time or full-time, hired into a position having direct, unsupervised contact with students shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal records check and fingerprinting.

The superintendent will identify district contractors subject to such requirements.

5. Any contractor or an employee of the contractor who provides early childhood special education or early intervention services shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal records check and fingerprinting with the Employment Department.
6. An individual who is an employee of a public charter school shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal records check and fingerprinting.
7. Any volunteer allowed to have direct, unsupervised contact with students, in a volunteer position identified in Board policy GCDA/GDDA by the district as requiring fingerprinting, shall be required to undergo a nationwide criminal records check and fingerprinting.

An exception will be made to criminal records checks and fingerprinting if the district has on file evidence from a previous employer documenting a successfully completed Oregon and FBI criminal records check. Evidence will be either a copy of the records check or a written statement of verification from a supervisor or officer of the previous employer. Furthermore:

1. The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) or TSPC verification of a previous check shall be acceptable only in the event the district can demonstrate records are not otherwise available;
2. Additional evidence that the employee has not resided outside the state between the two periods of time working in the district shall be maintained.

Notification

1. A list of those positions subject to criminal records checks and fingerprinting will be maintained in the district office and available to the public upon request.
2. The district will provide notification to individuals subject to criminal records checks and fingerprinting of the following:
 - a. Such checks are required by law and/or Board policy;
 - b. Any action resulting from those checks may be appealed as a contested case;
 - c. All employment or contract offers are contingent upon the results of such checks;
 - d. A refusal to consent to criminal records checks or fingerprinting or falsely stating on district employment application, contract or ODE fingerprint forms as to conviction of a crime shall result in immediate termination from employment or contract status.
3. The district will provide notice through such means as employment applications and contract forms.

Processing/Reporting Procedures

1. Any individual subject to criminal records checks and/or fingerprinting shall, as part of the application process, complete the appropriate forms.
2. If the individual is subject to fingerprinting, he/she will be required to report within three working days to an authorized finger printer for fingerprinting. Fingerprints will be taken by a contracted agent of the district.

Individuals shall be subject to fingerprinting only after acceptance of an offer of employment or contract.

3. To ensure the integrity of the fingerprinting collection and prevent any compromise of the process, the district will provide the name of the individual to be fingerprinted to the authorized finger printer and require that the individual submit a photo ID (driver's license or other) containing the individual's name and picture in order to verify the identity of the individual intended to be fingerprinted.
6. The Fingerprint Criminal History Verification form and fingerprint cards will be sent to the ODE. A copy of the form will be kept in the employee's personnel file.

Fees

1. Fees associated with criminal records checks for individuals to be employed with the district or applying to be a volunteer within the district shall be paid by the district.

Termination of Employment or Withdrawal of Employment/Contract Offer

1. Any individual required to submit to criminal records checks and/or fingerprinting in accordance with law and/or Board policy will be terminated from consideration as a district volunteer and employment or contract status or withdrawal of offer of employment or contract will be made by the superintendent immediately upon:
 - a. Refusal to consent to a criminal records check and/or fingerprinting; or
 - b. notification by the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his/her designee or the State Board of Education that the employee has made a false statement as to conviction of a crime or conviction of crimes prohibiting employment with the district as specified in law.
2. Employment termination shall remove the individual from any district policies, collective bargaining provisions regarding dismissal procedures and appeals and the provisions of Accountability for Schools for the 21st Century Law.

Appeals

All appeals regarding a determination which prevents his/her employment or eligibility to contract with the district will be directed to the Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction. Individual's eligible to appeal as a contested case will be so notified in writing by ODE.