Healthcare Programs Criminal Background Check Process

The education of students in the Health Science Division at Wichita Area Technical College requires collaboration between the college and clinical affiliates. Education of these students cannot be complete without a quality clinical education component. The college shares an obligation with the clinical affiliates to protect the affiliate’s patients from harm to the extent reasonably possible. It is therefore the policy of Wichita Area Technical College that students enrolling in health profession programs submit to background checks.

Guidelines for Background Check On Health Profession Students

I. Persons to be Tested
A background check is required for each student who seeks acceptance into a health program at Wichita Area Technical College that includes a clinical component.

II. Consent
The student will provide applicable consent(s) to the college-designated vendor conducting the background check. If the student is under eighteen (18) years of age, the student’s parent or guardian must sign the consent form in addition to the student.

III. Background Check Procedure
The background checks will be scheduled and conducted by a college-designated vendor according to program specific deadlines. Background checks performed by any other vendor or agency will not be accepted. Students reinstated to a program after an absence from program coursework of one semester or more will have to repeat background testing.

The student will be responsible for the cost of the background check. Students applying for short-term health programs will complete their background check prior to acceptance into the program. Students applying for long-term health programs will complete their background check after being selected for the program, and final admission is contingent upon the results of the background check.
IV. Results
Results of the background check will be sent to the Assistant Academic Coach for Health Care programs or other positions as determined by the Vice President of Student Services. Students with an unacceptable background check will be informed, in writing, of the results and will be notified regarding the method to dispute the accuracy of the background check report within a designated time frame. If the student does not dispute the accuracy of the report within the designated time frame, the report will be accepted as submitted. If the student disputes the information on the background report, the vendor will reverify the accuracy of the report. Once reverification has been completed, the vendor will advise WATC of the outcome by either confirming that the original report is correct or by making a change to the original report. If a change is made to the original report, the background check will be re-evaluated. WATC will notify the student if the change results in acceptance to the program. If eligibility is not established, the student will remain ineligible and the student will be informed of the decision.

Matters arising from background checks are categorized into one of three types:

- Applicants who have been convicted of any crime listed under **Always Disqualifies** (see below) will not be eligible for enrollment in the corresponding WATC Health Care programs.

- Applicants who have been convicted of any crime listed under **Subject to Determination** (see below) will be reviewed by the Health Care Admission team for enrollment in WATC Health Care programs. The Health Care Admission team will consist of the Academic Coach for Health Care Programs, who will serve as chair of the team; one full-time health care instructor appointed by the Vice President of Academic Affairs; and one staff member appointed by the Vice President of Student Services. The decision to accept or deny the applicant will be based on majority vote of the team and is final.

- Applicants who have been convicted of a crime listed under **Never Disqualifies** or an unlisted crime of comparable magnitude (see below) will be eligible for enrollment in WATC Health Care programs provided they meet other program requirements and are accepted for admission to the program.

**Long term health programs**

*(Practical Nurse, Dental Assistant, Medical Assistant, Surgical Technology, and additional Long Term health care programs as approved by the college)*

**Always Disqualifies**

1. Any felony conviction for a crime against a person.
2. Any other felony conviction unless the applicable certifying body has provided official documentation that the applicant has been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust.
3. A misdemeanor conviction for illegal drug offense unless the applicable certifying body has provided official documentation that the applicant has been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public trust.

Subject to Determination

1. Misdemeanor crimes against a person
2. Misdemeanor crimes of moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.)
3. A combination of two or more misdemeanor convictions in the past five years
4. Other offenses of comparable magnitude

Applicants with pending charges for any of the crimes listed above will NOT be allowed to enroll in a health care program until the charges have been resolved.

Never Disqualifies

Minor traffic offenses, such as:

1. Misdemeanors or infractions for non-moving violations
2. Misdemeanors or infractions for non-dangerous moving violations
3. Misdemeanors or infractions for mechanical violations (e.g., defective tail light)

Applicants with pending charges for any of the crimes listed above will be allowed to enroll in a health care program if all other program requirements have been met and the applicant has been accepted for admission to the program.

Diversion will not prohibit a conviction from being considered.

Short term health programs

(CNA, CMA, HHA, Rehabilitative Aide, Activity Director/Social Service Designee and additional Short Term health programs as approved by the college)

Always Disqualifies

1. Murder in the first degree
2. Murder in the second degree
3. Voluntary manslaughter
4. Assisting suicide
5. Mistreatment of a dependent adult (misdemeanor or felony)
6. Capital murder
7. Rape
8. Indecent liberties with a child
9. Aggravated criminal sodomy
10. Indecent solicitation of a child
11. Aggravated indecent solicitation of a child
12. Sexual exploitation of a child
13. Sexual battery
14. Aggravated sexual battery
15. Attempt to commit any of the above
16. Conspiracy to commit any of the above
17. Criminal solicitation to commit any of the above

**Disqualifies for a Period of Five (5) years and Subject to Determination Thereafter**

1. Involuntary manslaughter
2. Aggravated assault
3. Aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer
4. Domestic battery (felony)
5. Battery against a law enforcement officer (felony)
6. Aggravated battery
7. Aggravated battery against a law enforcement officer
8. Criminal threat
9. Aggravated criminal threat
10. Kidnapping
11. Aggravated kidnapping
12. Interference with parental custody (felony)
13. Aggravated interference with parental custody
14. Robbery
15. Aggravated robbery
16. Blackmail
17. Exposing another to a life threatening communicable disease
18. Stalking (felony)
19. Involuntary manslaughter while driving under the influence
20. Trafficking
21. Aggravated trafficking
22. Battery against a mental health employee
23. Terrorism
24. Illegal use of weapons of mass destruction
25. Furtherance of terrorism or illegal use of weapons of mass destruction
26. Criminal sodomy (felony)
27. Lewd and lascivious behavior (felony)
28. Promoting prostitution (felony)
29. Unlawful sexual relation
30. Unlawful voluntary sexual relations
31. Electronic solicitation
32. Bigamy
33. Incest
34. Aggravated incest
35. Abandonment of a child
36. Aggravated abandonment of a child
37. Aggravated endangering a child
38. Abuse of a child
39. Furnishing alcoholic beverages to a minor for illicit purpose
40. Contributing to a child’s misconduct or deprivation (felony)
41. Theft (felony)
42. Attempt to commit any of the above
43. Conspiracy to commit any of the above
44. Criminal solicitation to commit any of the above

Applicants with pending charges for any of the crimes listed above will NOT be allowed to enroll in a health care program until the charges have been resolved.

Subject to Determination

1. Felony or misdemeanor conviction for illegal drug offense
2. Any other felony conviction
3. Misdemeanor crimes against a person
4. Misdemeanor crimes of moral turpitude (prostitution, public lewdness/exposure, etc.)
5. A combination of two or more misdemeanor convictions in the past five years
6. Other offenses of comparable magnitude

Applicants with pending charges for any of the crimes listed above will NOT be allowed to enroll in a health care program until the charges have been resolved.

Never Disqualifies

Minor traffic offenses, such as:

1. Misdemeanors or infractions for non-moving violations
2. Misdemeanors or infractions for non-dangerous moving violations
3. Misdemeanors or infractions for mechanical violations (e.g., defective tail light)
Applicants with pending charges for any of the crimes listed above will be allowed to enroll in a health care program if all other program requirements have been met and the applicant has been accepted for admission to the program.

*Diversion will not prohibit a conviction from being considered.*

**NOTICE**

Findings on background checks can have licensure implications upon graduation from a health program. The student is responsible for confirming whether or not the conviction will prevent them from taking a certifying or licensing examination upon completion of an academic program.

Results of any student’s background screen will be shared only on a need to know basis, including but not limited to legal, disciplinary or appeal actions which require access to the results.