



All Candidates

Texas A&M – Corpus Christi

Background History Disclosure

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi expressly discloses the following:

1. As a provider of teacher education programs, Texas A&M – Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) must ensure its students demonstrate adherence to the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators, which requires the observance of federal and state law. An arrest, indictment, conviction, and/or deferred adjudication may result in a student being dismissed from the program.
2. While Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi does not perform criminal history background checks, Texas public schools are permitted by state law to conduct criminal history background checks on a person intended for hire or a person who has requested a volunteer position. As a participant in field experiences or student teaching in a Texas public school, you are subject to a criminal history background check.
3. While Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi does not perform criminal history background checks, the Texas State Board for Educator Certification requests information regarding any previous arrest, indictment, conviction, and/or deferred adjudication. When applying for state certification, you will be subject to a criminal history background check by the State Board for Educator Certification. An applicant with a criminal history may be denied certification.
4. If a candidate has had any previous arrest, indictment, conviction, and/or deferred adjudication, then the candidate has the right to request a Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation (PCHE) from TEA. The findings of TEA's Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation (PCHE) request does not assure that certification will be granted. Candidates must receive criminal history background check clearance upon submission of certification application after graduation.

Please read front and back of form before signing below.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ A#: _____

SECTION 249.16. Eligibility of Persons with Criminal History for a Certificate under Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 53, and Texas Education Code, Chapter 21

- (a) Pursuant to the Texas Occupations Code (TOC), Chapter 53, and the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 21, Subchapter B, the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) may suspend or revoke an existing valid certificate, deny an applicant a certificate, bar a person from being assessed or examined for a certificate, or take other disciplinary action because of a person's conviction of a felony or misdemeanor or certain other criminal history.

(b) Disciplinary action under the TOC, §53.021, does not apply to a person convicted only of an offense punishable as a Class C misdemeanor unless the person is an applicant for or the holder of a license that authorizes the person to possess a firearm and the person was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of domestic violence as defined by 18 United States Code, §921.

(c) When statute or SBEC rule codified in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 7, requires an offense to directly relate to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession, an offense is considered to directly relate if the offense indicates a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of a student or minor, parent of a student, fellow employee, or professional colleague; interferes with the orderly, efficient, or safe operation of a school district, campus, or activity; or indicates impaired ability or misrepresentation of qualifications to perform the functions of an educator. Offenses considered to relate directly to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession include, but are not limited to:

 - (1) offenses involving moral turpitude;
 - (2) offenses involving any form of sexual or physical abuse or neglect of a student or minor or other illegal conduct with a student or minor;
 - (3) offenses involving any felony possession or conspiracy to possess, or any misdemeanor or felony transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to transfer, sell, or distribute any controlled substance defined in the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481;
 - (4) offenses involving school property or funds;
 - (5) offenses involving any attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit that would entitle any person to hold or obtain a position as an educator;
 - (6) offenses occurring wholly or in part on school property or at a school-sponsored activity; or
 - (7) felony offenses involving driving while intoxicated (DWI).

(d) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff, pursuant to the TOC, Chapter 53, and the requirements of this chapter, shall notify the applicant or certificate holder in writing of the TEA staff's intent to seek disciplinary action, including denial or revocation, and the reasons for the proposed action. The applicant or certificate holder shall have the opportunity to be heard according to the procedures set forth in this chapter.

(e) The grounds for revoking or suspending a certificate provided by this section and the TOC, Chapter 53, are cumulative of the other grounds and remedies provided by the TEC, §21.060, and this chapter.