



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT-Change in Background Check Standards for Maricopa Community College Students Admitted on or after September 1, 2011

For all allied health and nursing students who seek to begin MCCCDC healthcare programs on or after September 1, 2011, new background check standards will be in effect. Additionally, students who have been admitted to an MCCCDC healthcare program or who are currently enrolled in one as of September 1, 2011 will be required to sign an MCCCDC Criminal Background Check Disclosure Acknowledgement form. These changes are necessary due to the fact that six of eleven of MCCCDC's largest clinical experience hospital partners have established stringent background check standards that preclude MCCCDC from assigning students to those sites who cannot meet those standards. In order for MCCCDC students to be able to continue to complete clinical experiences at local hospitals, students must meet these new standards.

For persons wishing to enroll in a Program on or after September 1, 2011, 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 MCCCDC 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 MCCCDC-supplemental background check from a soon-to-be-determined single vendor authorized by MCCCDC to conduct those background checks. Students are required to pay the cost of obtaining this background check. Students whose background checks on the date of actual date of beginning a healthcare program are more than 6-months old 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 MCCCDC supplemental- background check.
- The MCCCDC supplemental or the clinical agency background check may include but are not limited to the following:
 - Nationwide Healthcare Fraud and Abuse Databases
 - Social Security Verification
 - Residency History
 - Arizona Statewide Criminal Records
 - Nationwide Criminal Database
 - Nationwide Sexual Offender Registry
 - Homeland Security Search
- By virtue of the MCCCDC 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:
 - Social Security Search-Social Security number does not belong to applicant
 - Any inclusion on any registered sex offender database
 - Any inclusion on any of the federal exclusion lists or Homeland Security watch list
 - Any conviction of Felony no matter the age of the conviction



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT-Change in Background Check Standards for Maricopa Community College Students Admitted on or after September 1, 2011

- Any warrant in any state
 - Any Misdemeanor conviction for the following no matter the age of the conviction
 - violent crimes
 - sex crime of any kind including non consensual sexual crimes and sexual assault
 - murder, attempted murder
 - abduction
 - assault
 - robbery
 - arson
 - extortion
 - burglary
 - pandering
 - any crime against minors, children, vulnerable adults including abuse, neglect, exploitation
 - any abuse or neglect
 - any fraud
 - illegal drugs
 - aggravated DUI
 - Any misdemeanor controlled substance conviction last 7 years
 - Any other misdemeanor convictions within last 3 years
 - 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 MCCCDC supplemental background check performed by the MCCCDC-authorized 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 MCCCDC, 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 MCCCDC 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.
 - MCCCDC may, within its discretion, disclose to a clinical agency that a student has been rejected by another clinical agency.
 - MCCCDC 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.