



Position Statement – Background Checks/Drug Screen

To comply with JCAHO, state and local regulations regarding background checks for healthcare providers, the following position statement for Nursing and Allied Health Students has been drafted by the OC/LB Consortium for Nursing:

Students must have clear criminal background checks to participate in placement(s) in clinical facilities. The background check is **not a requirement for admission** to an academic program and will be completed after a student is admitted. Background checks are **required for registration in hospital clinical courses or hospital observation**. The initial background check satisfies this requirement during continuous enrollment in the program; should the educational process be interrupted, a new background check will be required.

Background checks will minimally include the following:

- Seven years history
- Address verification
- Sex offender database search
- Two names (current legal and one other name)
- Three counties
- OIG search
- Social Security Number verification

Students will be unable to attend clinical facilities for the following convictions:

Murder Felony assault

Sexual offenses/sexual assault

Felony possession and furnishing (without certificate of rehabilitation) Felony

Drug and alcohol offenses (without certificate of rehabilitation) Other felonies involving weapons and/or violent crimes

Class B and Class A misdemeanor theft Felony theft

Fraud



Students may be denied access to clinical facilities based on offenses appearing on the criminal record, even if they occurred more than seven years ago. Clinical agencies have denied access to students based on previous offences.

Students must provide schools with information allowing the school (and clinical facilities as necessary) access to the background check. If the student's record is not clear, the student will be responsible for obtaining documents and having the record corrected to clear it. If this is not possible, the student will be unable to attend clinical rotations. Clinical rotations are a mandatory part of nursing and allied health education; therefore the student will be ineligible to continue in a clinical setting.

If after reviewing the background check, the school is unable to determine placement status, the school may check with two Consortium-member facilities; if both agree that the student should be cleared for placement in a clinical facility, the school may place the student in clinical rotations. Final placement status based on background check information is the school's determination.

Students under 18 years of age are exempt from this requirement.

Clearance as a student does not guarantee the student will receive state or national clearance for certificates or licensure. Clearance also does not guarantee employment.

DRUG SCREEN (10 Panel) – Students will need to pass a drug screen. This is a screen for the following: Amphetamines (methamphetamine), Barbiturate, Benzodiazepines, Cocaine, Cannabinoids (marijuana), Methaqualone, Opiates (codeine, morphine), Phencyclidine, Propoxyphene, Methadone

[The student will pay for both the background checks and drug screens.](#)

Applicable BRN and/or BVN/PT guidelines will be incorporated into these guidelines as they become available.