

Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting *

In a continuing effort to ensure the safety and welfare of students and staff, the district shall require all newly hired employees¹ not requiring licensure under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 342.223 to submit to a criminal records check and/or fingerprinting as required by law. Other individuals, as determined by the district, that will have direct, unsupervised contact with students shall submit to criminal records checks and/or fingerprinting as established by Board policy and as required by law.

“Direct, unsupervised contact with students” means contact with students that provides the person opportunity and probability for personal communication or touch when not under direct supervision.

Pursuant to state law, a criminal records check or fingerprint-based criminal records checks shall be required of the following individuals²:

1. All individuals employed as or by a contractor and considered by the district to have direct, unsupervised contact with students;
2. Any community college faculty member providing instruction at the site of an early childhood education program, at a school site as part of an early childhood program or at a grade K through 12 school site during the regular school day;
3. Any individual who is an employee of a public charter school and not requiring licensure under ORS 342.223; and
4. ³Any individual considered for volunteer service with the district who is allowed to have direct, unsupervised contact with students.

The district will provide the written notice about the requirements of fingerprinting and criminal records checks through means such as staff handbooks, employment applications, contracts or volunteer forms.

The district shall require a criminal records check for volunteers allowed direct, unsupervised contact with students.

¹ Any individual hired within the last three months. A subject individual does not include an employee hired within the last three months if the district has evidence on file that meets the definition in Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 581-021-0510(11)(b).

² Subject individuals and requirements are further outlined in GCDA/GDDA-AR – Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting.

³ If the district allows volunteer service and the volunteers have direct, unsupervised contact with students, this policy language is required, and districts are required to conduct criminal records checks on these volunteers.

The procedure for processing fingerprint collection is further outlined in GCDA/GDDA-AR – Criminal Records Checks and Fingerprinting.

A subject individual shall be subject to the collection of fingerprint information, only after the offer of employment or contract from the district and may be charged a fee by the district. A subject individual may request the fee be withheld from the amount otherwise due the individual.

The district shall begin the employment of a subject individual or terms of a district contractor on a probationary basis pending the return and disposition of the required criminal records checks.

When the district is notified of a subject individual who has been convicted of any crimes prohibiting employment or contract the individual will not be employed or contracted, or if employed will be terminated. When the district is notified of a subject individual who knowingly made a false statement as to the conviction of any crime, the individual may be employed or contracted with by the district, or if employed by the district may be terminated. A subject individual who fails to disclose the presence of convictions that would not otherwise prohibit employment or contract with the district as provided by law may be employed or contracted with by the district.

The district's use of criminal history must be relevant to the specific requirements of the position, services or employment.

The service of a volunteer allowed to have direct, unsupervised contact with students may begin on a probationary basis pending the return and disposition of a criminal records check.

The service of a volunteer into a position identified by the district as requiring a fingerprint-based criminal records check may begin on a probationary basis pending before the return and disposition of a state and national criminal records check based on fingerprints.

A volunteer who knowingly made a false statement or has a conviction of the crimes listed in ORS 342.143, or the substantial equivalent of any of those crimes if the conviction occurred in another jurisdiction or in Oregon under a different statutory name or number may result in immediate termination from the ability to volunteer in the district.

The superintendent shall develop administrative regulations as necessary to meet the requirements of law.

Appeals

A subject individual may appeal a determination from ODE that prevents employment or eligibility to contract with the district to the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a contested case under ORS 183.413 – 183.470.

A volunteer may appeal a determination from a fingerprint-based criminal records checks by ODE that prevents the ability to volunteer with the district to the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a contested case under ORS 183.413 – 183.470.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 181A.180](#)
[ORS 181A.230](#)
[ORS 326.603](#)
[ORS 326.607](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)
[ORS 336.631](#)
.143
[ORS 342.223](#)

[OAR 414-061-0010 – 061-0030](#)
-021-0510 – 021-0512
[OAR 581-022-2430](#)
[OAR 584-050-0012](#)

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e, et. seq. (2012).