

## Criminal Background Investigation

### I. Purpose:

All students who are accepted to the Colorado Mesa University Department of Health Sciences programs are required to submit a background investigation to maintain a safe and productive educational and clinical environment.

### II. General Information

- A. Acceptance into and/or matriculation through the program is contingent upon passing the background investigation.
- B. Costs incurred for all background checks are the student's responsibility.
- C. Clinical sites may require copies of, and additional background investigations to attend clinical at their site.
- D. Clinical agencies have the right to refuse clinical rotations to any student based upon adverse information noted within the background investigation.
  - Neither CMU, nor the Department of Health Science, can determine if an individual is eligible to sit for national examination.
  - Students are responsible for contacting their state board of nursing (or state certifying body) to determine if they will be eligible to sit for national examination.
- E. The Department of Health Science can request the completion of a background investigation at any point during their program.
  - Students who have adverse notations on the background investigation that would have otherwise disqualify them from admission to the program, will be dismissed from all nursing classes and the nursing program.
  - The student can reapply to the program once their adverse notations are compliant with the requirements at the time of application (e.g., the offense is beyond the years immediately preceding the application).
- F. Students are responsible for self-reporting offenses that occur after admission to the Department of Health Sciences Director.
  - The Department Director will review offenses with the respective Program Coordinator and/or designee to determine whether the student can continue in the program.
  - Failure to self-report an offense may lead to immediate dismissal from the program.
  - To comply with agency requirements, the Department Director or selected designee, will notify clinical agencies about students' offenses that occur after admission to the program.
    - Clinical agencies have the right to refuse any student rotations based upon adverse notations on a background check.
- G. Procedure for an appeal for the Department of Health Science decision of non-admission due to adverse notation on the background investigation:
  - The applicant will be notified in writing of the background check decision.
  - If the applicant disagrees with the accuracy of information obtained, he/she may request in writing a review of the accuracy of the information within 10 days of the decision letter.
    - Continuation of the application process will be on hold pending results of the review.
    - It is the responsibility of the student to produce substantial evidence that demonstrates the crimes disclosed within the background investigation were inaccurate or incorrect.
  - The applicant has the right to appeal the decision of the Department Director and/or designee to the Vice President for Student Services within 10 days of the decision.
  - The decision of the Vice President for Student Services and/or designee is final.
- H. Additional information will be provided upon offer of admission and upon request of an additional background investigation.