

Student Acknowledgement and Authorization Regarding Background Check

The Wichita State University College of Applied Studies requires all advanced education program students to pass a criminal background check that they obtain at their own expense. There are two reasons for this requirement. First, it is part of the university's due diligence before placing students in field settings. Second, the check may alert students to issues that may subsequently affect their ability to work in their chosen field. A current educator or other professional license that would have required passing a criminal background check will be accepted.

I am informed and understand, accept, and agree to abide by the following:

1. I understand that I am required to consent to a background check which may include, but is not limited to an investigation regarding whether I am registered as a sex offender and whether my criminal history raises reasonable questions about my ability to obtain a license in the State of Kansas.
2. I understand that passing the required criminal background required does not replace nor ensure I will pass a Kansas Department of Education or other professional organization background check required if applying for licensure.
3. I understand I am required to obtain and pay for all background checks and criminal history investigations as a student in an advanced education program.
4. I understand that I am required to have such information forwarded directly to the College of Applied Studies at Wichita State University.
5. In the event that information regarding my background check and/or criminal history investigation is provided to Wichita State University, I understand that officials of Wichita State University may review such material to determine whether any information discovered during any background check or criminal history investigation renders it reasonably questionable whether I will be cleared to engage in field experiences.
6. I understand and hereby give my consent for Wichita State University to release information relating to my criminal history or any investigation thereof and to discuss and/or disclose the results of any background check or criminal history investigation to or with the appropriate faculty as deemed necessary or appropriate by Wichita State University.
7. I understand that Wichita State University, in its sole discretion, may determine, based on the results of my criminal background check, whether I will be allowed to participate in the required field experiences. I understand I will be given an opportunity to explain and comment to the head of my academic department at Wichita State University on the results of any background check attained pursuant to this acknowledgement and authorization; provided, however, that I understand it may be Wichita State University's responsibility, as mandated by the State of Kansas, to make a determination as to whether or not my criminal history or other status as revealed by a background check or criminal history investigation raises reasonable concerns regarding whether I should be cleared for field experiences. In such cases, WSU may take a range of actions, including rescission of admission or dismissal from the program, depending on the nature of the concern.
8. **Please sign and electronically submit a copy for your form to your academic department’s administrator or advisor. See Attachment A for department contacts for each program.** By signing herein, I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the statements above.

**ATTACHMENT A**

Please use the following list to identify the appropriate department administrator to send your documentation.

**Department of Intervention Services & Leadership in Education (ISLE**)

* Send documentation to dyana.baca@wichita.edu
* ISLE Programs
	+ Applied Behavior Analysis (MEd and Certificate)
	+ Building-Level Leadership (Certificate)
	+ Child/Play Therapy (Certificate)
	+ Counseling (MEd)
	+ Educational Leadership (MEd)
	+ School Psychology (EdS)
	+ Superintendency/District Leadership (Certificate)
	+ Education and Behavioral Studies (PhD)

**Department of Teacher Apprenticeship Pathways, Literacy & Special Education (TALS)**

* Send documentation to Angela.Aubrey@wichita.edu
* TALS Programs
	+ Early Childhood Unified Residency (MAT)
	+ Reading Specialist & Structured Literacy (Certificate)
	+ Special Education – Early Childhood Unified (MEd)
	+ Special Education – High Incidence (MEd)
	+ Special Education – High Incidence, Alternative Certification (MEd)
	+ Special Education – Low Incidence (MEd)
	+ Special Education – Low Incidence, Alternative Certification (MEd)

*Note: None of the programs listed above require a drug test as part of their background check process.*