



Policy Regarding Evidence of Good Moral Character

**POLICY**

Oregon Administrative Rule 584-017-1042, Field or Clinical Experience, requires that students admitted to approved teacher preparation programs provide evidence of good moral character necessary for licensure in Oregon by responding to character questions asked by the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) on the PA-1 registration form. Admitted students are also required to complete a criminal record check (supported by fingerprinting) prior to their first supervised field experience or equivalent field experience or internship.

**PROCEDURE**

1. All students will complete the character questionnaire as a part of their application for admission to any COE professional educator preparation program, and complete the PA-1 form and fingerprint process prior to beginning their first full-time supervised field experience or equivalent field experience or internship.
2. Program staff will take care to administer and review the character questionnaire in ways that ensure applicant or student privacy. Completed forms and fingerprint cards are collected and forwarded to the COE Coordinator of Student Records and Licensure and then to TSPC.
3. All students will complete the criminal history check fingerprinting process prior to their first supervised field experience or equivalent field experience or internship.
4. If the student has been convicted of a crime listed on the reverse side of the questionnaire, TSPC will almost certainly deny licensure to the student.
5. If a student knowingly provides inaccurate, incomplete or false information on the character questionnaire, the responsible administrator will notify the department head and the Assistant Dean for Academic Programs and Students Services of discovery of the criminal conviction or of other matters of concern that could have a bearing on the candidate's eligibility for licensure.
6. Program Coordinator will speak with the student (in the company of the Department Head and/or Assistant Dean for Academic Programs and Student Services) as soon as practicable to clarify the situation. At this meeting, the student will be informed of reasons for believing that the information provided on the TSPC character questionnaire is inaccurate or false, and obtain a response from the student.
7. If the responsible administrator is persuaded that the failure to disclose was non-willful, the student may proceed with licensure and degree programs.
8. If the responsible administrator is not persuaded that the failure to disclose was non-willful, the case is referred to the UO Student Conduct Code process.
9. Evidence of intentionally providing false information as a result of student conduct code proceeding is grounds for dismissal.
10. Any unprofessional or criminal behavior discovered through the questionnaire or criminal records record check, whether identified on the TSPC list or not, will be reported to the department head and Assistant Dean for Academic Programs and Student Services. Upon clarification a student may be expelled, denied licensure, or permitted to continue with the degree program only.



### Character Questionnaire - Admission into a Licensure Program

Listed below are the character questions that are extracted from the Application for License that is a requirement for the issuance of a license. The intent of this form is to pre-qualify you for entrance into a licensure program. **An Oregon license will be denied for the conviction of any of the crimes listed on the reverse side.**

CHARACTER QUESTIONS - You must answer each question either "Yes" or "No" whichever is true. Explain each "yes" answer in detail on a separate sheet. Any false statement knowingly made in this application is grounds for revocation or suspension of your license. If in doubt, disclose and explain rather than conceal.

1. Have you ever left any educational or school-related employment, voluntarily or involuntarily, while the subject of an inquiry, review or investigation of alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct or when you had reason to believe such investigation was imminent? 1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are you currently the subject of an inquiry, review, or investigation for alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct? 2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Have you ever failed to complete a contract for educational services in any educational or school-related position, or for any alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct been placed on leave by your employer or left such employment prior to the end of the contract term? 3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have you ever had a professional certificate, credential, or license (of any kind) revoked or suspended, or have you been placed on probationary status for any alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct? 4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you ever been denied a professional license for which you applied or granted a professional license on a conditional or probationary basis for any alleged misconduct or alleged violation of professional standards of conduct? 5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Have you ever surrendered a professional license of any kind before its expiration? 6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Have you ever been disciplined by any public agency responsible for licensure of any kind, including but not limited to educational licensure? 7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Have you ever been convicted or been granted conditional discharge by any court for: (a) any felony; (b) misdemeanor; or (c) any major traffic violation, such as: driving under the influence of intoxicants or drugs; reckless driving; fleeing from or attempting to elude a police officer; driving while your license was suspended, revoked or used in violation of any license restriction; or failure to perform the duties of a driver or witness at an accident? 8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Have you ever been arrested or cited for any offense listed in question 8 above which is still pending? 9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Have you ever entered a plea of Guilty or No Contest relative to any charge for an offense listed in question 8? 10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. Have you ever had any civil judgment or other court order entered against you resulting from abuse, assault, battery, harassment, intimidation, neglect, stalking, or threatening behavior toward other persons? 11. \_\_\_\_\_



**NOTE:** If you answer “No” to questions 8 through 11 based upon an “expungement,” and/or an order “setting aside” or “sealing” of a record of a conviction or conditional discharge, you must personally verify with the court directly involved that the expungement, setting aside, or sealing actually has taken place. An erroneous belief that a conviction has been expunged, set aside, or sealed, when in fact it has not, will be deemed a false statement. **If you answer “YES” to any of the above, a copy of court records/letter of explanation must accompany this form.**

**Authorization** - I hereby certify that the information submitted on or relating to this form is true and correct.

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Applicant Legal Name (Printed)

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Applicant Signature

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Date

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**NOTE:** Under ORS **SDS 1036 070795**

342.143 and 342.175, Oregon License shall be denied or revoked for conviction of any of the following crimes or for comparable crimes in another state.

ORS #	Description of Crime	ORS #	Description of Crime
163.095	Aggravated Murder	163.525	Incest
163.115	Murder	163.547	Child Neglect in the First Degree
163.235	Kidnapping in the First Degree	163.575	Endangering the Welfare of a Minor
163.355	Rape in the Third Degree	163.670	Using Child in Display of Sexually Explicit Conduct
163.365	Rape in the Second Degree	163.675	Sale or Exhibition of Visual Reproduction of Sexual Conduct by Child
163.375	Rape in the First Degree	163.680	Paying for Viewing Sexual Conduct Involving a Child
163.385	Sodomy in the Third Degree	164.325	Arson in the First Degree
163.395	Sodomy in the Second Degree	167.007	Prostitution
163.405	Sodomy in the First Degree	167.012	Promoting Prostitution
163.408	Unlawful Sexual Penetration in the Second Degree	167.017	Compelling Prostitution
163.411	Unlawful Sexual Penetration in the First Degree	167.062	Sadomasochistic Abuse or Sexual Conduct in Live Show
163.415	Sexual Abuse in the Third Degree	167.065	Furnishing Obscene Materials to Minors
163.425	Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree	167.070	Sending Obscene Materials to Minors
163.427	Sexual Abuse in the First Degree	167.075	Exhibiting an Obscene Performance to a Minor
163.435	Contributing to the Sexual Delinquency of a Minor	167.080	Displaying Obscene Materials to Minors
163.445	Sexual Misconduct	167.087	Disseminating Obscene Materials
163.455	Accosting for Deviate Purposes	167.090	Publicly Displaying Nudity or Sex for Advertising Purposes
163.465	Public Indecency	475.995	Distribution of Controlled Substance to Minors
163.515	Bigamy	475.999	Manufacture or Delivery of Controlled Substance to Minor or Student within 1,000 Feet of School