



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION BACKGROUND CHECK CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Dear School of Education Candidate,

Please read the following policy concerning background checks and sign below verifying that you understand the policy and agree to follow the steps required of you should an incident occur.

By law, any person who will work with children in schools must complete a TBI/FBI background check (pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-5-413, 37-1-41, 71-3-507, PL 105-251). Background checks only provide information about a candidate's record at the time that the check is completed.

Candidates are required to notify the Cumberland University School of Education if, after a completed background check has been submitted to the School of Education, they are involved in any incident in which law enforcement is involved, or that requires an appearance in a court of law. Candidates *must notify the School of Education on the first business day after the incident occurs, and prior to their appearance in court.*

The CUSoE reserves the right to judgment on any positive return indicating an "indication that there is reason to preclude the applicant from consideration for employment or licensing." Decisions made based on these judgments include but are not limited to the following:

- 1. ABSOLUTELY NO FELONS will be permitted to complete a degree at Cumberland University that may be used to secure teacher licensure in any state.**
- 2. Any incident involving children, minors, abuse, violence, etc. is to be very seriously considered on the merits of each individual case.**
- 3. For other incidents not involving children or violence, CFE must consider the nature and date of the incident before clearing the candidate for placement.**
- 4. If the candidate is considered ineligible for placement by the CUSoE, the CUSoE faculty or its representatives will take the necessary steps to assist the candidate with a transfer to another major if appropriate.**
- 5. The CUSoE faculty reserve the right to deny a candidate the ability to complete a degree based on the merits of information returned in a background check.**

I, _____, a student in the Cumberland University School of Education and/or candidate for Tennessee teacher licensure or endorsement, have read and understand the above statement.

I do hereby promise to notify the Cumberland University School of Education of any incident in which I am involved that may change the status of the completed background check submitted to the School of Education.

Candidate signature: _____

Date: _____

Witnessed by School of Education employee: (Print name) _____

Signature _____

Date: _____