

## General Personnel

### Administrative Procedure - Investigations

#### Immigration Investigation

All newly hired employees must complete section one of the Immigration and Naturalization Service Form I-9 no later than three business days following their first working day (Immigration Reform and Control Act, 8 U.S.C. §1324a, 8 C.F.R. §274a.2). [www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/form/i-9.pdf](http://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/form/i-9.pdf). If an individual is unable to provide the required documents to complete it, the individual may present a receipt for the application of the required documents within three days of the hire. The individual must then present the required documents within 90 days of the hire. The Executive Director or designee completes section two of the Form I-9 and confirms the employee's information.

If the Employment Eligibility Verification System (E-Verify) is used to complete Form I-9, the Executive Director or designee will review the Ill. Dept. of Labor's website and its E-Verify factsheet, available at: [www.uscis.gov/e-verify/what-e-verify](http://www.uscis.gov/e-verify/what-e-verify). See, the Ill. Dept. of Labor Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act, 820 ILCS 55/12.

The completed Form I-9 shall be maintained in a file separate from other personnel records in order to prevent unauthorized review of personnel files. The Form I-9 shall be retained for a period of three years after the date of hire or one year after individual employment is terminated, whichever is later.

#### Fingerprint-based Criminal History Records Information Check (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9)

A fingerprint-based criminal history records information check must be initiated prior to employment, but the Cooperative may permit the individual to be hired and begin employment pending its outcome. See *Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) Checks for Certified and Non-certified School Personnel*, at: [www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance\\_chr.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance_chr.pdf).

A complete criminal history records check pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 consists of:

1. Fingerprint-based checks through (a) the Illinois State Police (ISP) for criminal history records information (CHRI) pursuant to the Uniform Conviction Information Act (20 ILCS 2635/1), and (b) the FBI national crime information databases pursuant to the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act (P.L. 109-248),
2. A check of the Illinois Sex Offender Registry (see the Sex Offender Community Notification Law, 730 ILCS 152/ et seq.), and
3. A check of the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry (see the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law, 730 ILCS 154/75-105).

See also policy 4:175, *Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications*, and administrative procedure 4:175-AP1, *Criminal Offender Notification Laws; Screening*. **Important:** 20 ILCS 2630/5.2 outlines how an individual may petition to have an arrest record expunged by the arresting authority and the records of the arrest sealed by the circuit court clerk. It also details offenses for which an individual cannot have his or her conviction sealed.

**Note:** The following criminal history records check guides are also available:

1. Guide to Understanding Criminal History Record Check Information is available at: [www.isp.state.il.us/docs/5-727.pdf](http://www.isp.state.il.us/docs/5-727.pdf).

2. ISBE's non-regulatory guidance document, Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) Checks for Certified and Non-certified School Personnel, at: [www.isbe.net/Documents/guidance\\_chr.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/Documents/guidance_chr.pdf).

The following individuals are responsible for the actions listed:

**Applicant** - Each applicant for employment in any position (except bus drivers employed by a private student transportation contractor) must provide a written authorization for a complete criminal history records check at the time he or she submits the application.

**Individual Student Teaching or beginning a required internship** - Each individual student teaching or beginning a required internship must provide written authorization for, and pay the costs of, his or her criminal history records check (including any applicable vendor's fees) prior to participating in any field experiences in the Cooperative. See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g).

**Applicant for Bus Driver** - Each applicant for a bus driver position must complete the application required by the Secretary of State for a school bus driver permit (obtained from the Cooperative) and submit it to the Cooperative along with the necessary fingerprint submission as required by the Department of State Police to conduct a fingerprint-based criminal history records check. The Executive Director or designee will conduct a pre-employment interview with prospective school bus driver candidates, distribute school bus driver applications and medical forms, and submit the applicant's fingerprint cards to the Department of State Police. The Executive Director or designee will certify in writing to the Secretary of State that all pre-employment conditions have been successfully completed, including the successful completion of a criminal history records check as required by State law. The applicant must present the certification to the Secretary of State at the time of submitting the school bus driver permit application. See 625 ILCS 5/6-106.1; 92 Ill.Admin. Code 1035.

#### **Executive Director or designee**

1. Fingerprint-Based Criminal History Records Check:

For all applicants, the Executive Director or designee completes the required forms to request the criminal history records checks from an appropriate police or LiveScan vendor. This may include submitting the applicant's name, sex, race, date of birth, social security number, fingerprint images, and other identifiers to the ISP and FBI on the forms prescribed by each agency.

The Executive Director or designee will provide the applicant with a copy of the ISP and FBI reports. Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b).

**Note:** For substitute teachers, the Executive Director will need to ensure that the Cooperative performs these checks. Contact the board attorney and/or ISBE regarding the validity of a *certificate of authorization*, if a substitute teacher presents one. From 1-1-11 through 7-1-11, the Regional Superintendent of Schools or Suburban Cook County Intermediate Service Center, whichever is appropriate, was allowed to issue *certificates of authorization* to substitute teachers. Issuance of a *certificate of authorization* was proof that the substitute teacher applicant had met all of the requirements to substitute teach in the educational service region; i.e., a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, a physical examination, and a negative tuberculin test. Because P.A. 97-607 deleted *certificates of authorization*, substitute teachers no longer receive them because they no longer exist. For those substitute teachers who did receive them, there is not an answer to the question of whether their *certificates of authorization* are still valid. Attorneys in the field suggest looking for an expiration date on the *certificate of authorization*. If the document has no expiration date, it is likely invalid because the document no longer exists. If there is an expiration date, then the document is likely valid until the date listed.

For individuals student teaching or beginning a required internship, the Executive Director or designee ensures that the individual completes the required forms, authorizations, and provides payment to the Cooperative for the costs of completing a complete criminal history records check prior to student teaching or beginning a required internship (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(g) and policy 5:260, *Student Teachers*). For more information, see also ISBE's non-regulatory guidance document, *Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) Checks for Certified and Non-certified School Personnel*, available at: [www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance\\_chr.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance_chr.pdf).

2. Screen of the Statewide offender databases. The Executive Director or designee performs a screen for each applicant of:
  - a. The Statewide Sex Offender Registry, [www.isp.state.il.us/sor](http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor), as authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 152/101 *et seq.*), and
  - b. The Statewide Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry [www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/](http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/), as authorized by the Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105).

The Executive Director or designee notifies the individual if he or she is identified in the database as a sex offender. Required by 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (a-5), (a-6), and (b).

**State Police and FBI** - The ISP and FBI furnish records of convictions (until expunged), pursuant to the Cooperative's request, to the Board Chairperson. **Note:** The ISP and FBI must "furnish, pursuant to a fingerprint-based criminal history records check, records of convictions, until expunged, to the president of the school board...". See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(a) and (g). For a student teacher, the report shall be returned to the Executive Director or designee (see ISBE's non-regulatory guidance document, *Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) Checks for Certified and Non-certified School Personnel*, at: [www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance\\_chr.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance_chr.pdf)).

**Board Chairperson** - The School Code requires the Board Chairperson to keep a conviction record confidential. The information may only be shared between the Board Chairperson, the Executive Director, Regional Superintendent (if the check was requested by the Cooperative), State Superintendent of Schools, State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board, any other person necessary to the hiring decision, or for clarification purposes, the Department of State Police and/or Statewide Sex Offender Registry. See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b) and 105 ILCS 5/21B-10.

**Regional Superintendent/Suburban Cook County Intermediate Service Center** - The Executive Director or designee may require the applicant to authorize the Regional Superintendent to conduct the check when an applicant is (1) seeking employment in more than one cooperative/district simultaneously as (a) a substitute teacher, (b) a concurrent part-time employee, and/or (c) educational support personnel, or (2) the employee works for a contractor holding contracts with more than one district or cooperative. The Regional Superintendent also performs a check of the Statewide Sex Offender Registry, [www.isp.state.il.us/sor](http://www.isp.state.il.us/sor), as authorized by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 152/115) and the Violent Offender Against Youth Registry, [www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/](http://www.isp.state.il.us/cmvo/), as authorized by the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law (730 ILCS 154/75-105). See 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 (a-5), (a-6), and (b).

**Contractors** - The above requirements for a complete criminal history records check apply to all employees and agents of contractors who have direct, daily contact with students (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f)). Every contractor with the Cooperative shall: (1) make every employee or agent who will have direct, daily contact with students submit to a complete criminal history records check, (2) agree to a

contract provision that it will make those employees available to the Cooperative for the criminal history records check, and (3) submit payment for the costs of the check(s) to the Cooperative.

**Note:** The provisions in 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(f) and (g) apply to contractor's employees who have "direct, daily contact with students." To be comprehensive and to eliminate uncertainty, this procedure and policy 4:175, *Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications*, may require a criminal history records check on *all* employees of contractors who may work in any school building or on school property. Whether the Cooperative uses the comprehensive language or the direct language from the School Code, the Cooperative, not the contractor, must perform the background checks. Contractors are not authorized under any State or federal law to: (1) conduct the required criminal history background checks, or (2) see the employee's criminal history furnished by the ISP and the FBI. All contracts should also require the contractor to purchase insurance to cover misconduct by their employees and/or an indemnification clause. Additionally, the Executive Director or designee should check insurance coverage to determine whether employees of contractors are covered. See also policy 4:175, *Convicted Child Sex Offender; Screening; Notifications*, for the responsibilities of contractors. Last, if the Cooperative has received, within the last year, information that concerns the record of conviction and identification as a sex offender of any contractors' employees, the district/cooperative must provide the information to another school, school district, cooperative, community college district, or private school that requests it (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(h)). For more information, see ISBE's non-regulatory guidance document, *Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) Checks for Certified and Non-certified School Personnel*, available at: [www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance\\_chr.pdf](http://www.isbe.net/pdf/guidance_chr.pdf). Unless notified by the individual named in a criminal history records information (CHRI) request or by the ISP that the information furnished in a CHRI report is inaccurate or incomplete, the District cannot be liable for damages to any person to whom the CHRI pertains for actions it reasonably took in reliance on the accuracy and completeness of CHRI report (20 ILCS 2635/7(A)(3)).

**Cooperative** –The Cooperative complies with 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9 and 5/21B-80. It will not knowingly employ a person, or allow a person to work or student teach/complete a required internship (105 ILCS 5/21.9(g)) on school grounds, who:

1. Has been convicted of any one or more of the following offenses, until seven years following the end of the sentence for the criminal offense:
  - a. Those defined in the Cannabis Control Act, 720 ILCS 550/, except: 720 ILCS 550/4(a), 550/4(b), 550/4(c), 550/5(a), 550/5(b), and any offense for which the holder of a license is placed on probation under the provisions of 550/10 provided that if the terms and conditions of probation required by the court are not fulfilled, the offense is not eligible for this exception.
  - b. Those defined in the Illinois Controlled Substances Act, 720 ILCS 570/100 *et seq.*, except: any offense for which the holder of a license is placed on probation under the provisions of 570/410 provided that if the terms and conditions of probation required by the court are not fulfilled, the offense is not eligible for this exception.
  - c. Those defined in the Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act, 720 ILCS 646/, except: any offense for which the holder of a license is placed on probation under the provisions of 646/70 provided that if the terms and conditions of probation required by the court are not fulfilled, the offense is not eligible for this exception.
  - d. Any attempt to commit any of the offenses listed in (a)-(c) of this section.
  - e. Any offense committed or attempted in any other state or against the laws of the United States that, if committed or attempted in Illinois, would have been punishable as one or more of the offenses listed in (a)-(d) of this section.
2. Has been convicted of committing or attempting to commit any one or more of the following offenses:

- a. Attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, soliciting, or committing first-degree murder or any Class X felony.
  - b. Attempting to commit, conspiring to commit, soliciting, or committing any *sex offense*.- Sex offense means any offense defined in:
    - i. Sections 11-6, and 11-9, through 11-9.5, inclusive, and 11-30 (if punished as a Class 4 felony) of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012.
    - ii. Sections 11-14.1 through 11-21, inclusive, of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012;
    - iii. Sections 11-23 (if punished as a Class 3 felony), 11-24, 11-25, and 11-26 of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012; and
    - iv. Sections 11-1.20, 11-1.30, 11-1.40, 11-1.50, 11-1.60, 12-4.9, 12-13, 12-14, 12-14.1, 12-15, 12-16, 12-32, 12-33, 12C-45, and 26-4 (if punished pursuant to 26-4(d)(4) or (5)) of the Criminal Code of 1961 or the Criminal Code of 2012.
  - c. Any offense committed or attempted in any other state or against the laws of the United States, which if committed or attempted in Illinois, would have been punishable as one or more of the foregoing offenses.
3. Has been found to be the perpetrator of sexual or physical abuse of any minor less than 18 years of age pursuant to proceedings under Article II of the Juvenile Court Act of 1987.

#### Reporting New Hires

The Executive Director or designee shall timely file an IRS Form W-4 or IDES New Hire Reporting Form for each newly hired employee with the Illinois Department of Employment Security. See 820 ILCS 405/1801.1.

New: 1/2006

Revised: 4/2009

Revised: 1/2012

Revised: 5/2012

Revised: 8/2013

Revised: 9/2014

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