



Michigan Alternate Route to Certification (M-ARC)
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CRIMINAL BACKGROUND AFFIDAVIT

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION POLICY

The Michigan Legislature has stated, in Public Act 97 of the Public Acts of 1995, that "conviction of a crime...is considered to be reasonably and adversely related to the ability of the person to serve in an elementary or secondary school."

Additionally, effective January 1, 2006, Public Acts 129 through 131 and 138 of the Public Acts of 2005 provide that public school districts, public school academies, and nonpublic schools shall not employ, in any capacity, an individual who has been convicted of a listed offense (i.e., a crime that requires registration as a sex offender). These laws further provide that a public school district, public school academy, or nonpublic school may employ an individual who has been convicted of a non-listed felony offense only if the superintendent/chief administrator and school board/governing body each specifically approve the employment or work assignment in writing.

Therefore, it is School of Education policy that if an applicant to, or a student in, a program leading to teacher certification (provisional certification, renewal of certificate, or professional certificate) has declared, or the School otherwise becomes aware of, a prior felony or misdemeanor conviction, one or more of the following may occur, depending upon the School's review of the circumstances and the nature of the offense:

- The individual may be denied admission or asked to leave the program; or
The individual may be permitted to continue in the teacher education program with the understanding that:
A school or district may refuse to allow the student access to its schools and/or classrooms for required field experiences, including student teaching;
The State of Michigan may refuse to issue the student a teaching certificate, despite his/her successful completion of the teacher education program; and/or
The State of Michigan may issue the student a teaching certificate upon successful completion of the program, but schools or school districts, considering a criminal conviction as part of an individual's qualifications for teaching, may choose not to hire the individual, or may not be legally permitted to do so.

Name _____ M-ARC Cohort Year _____
First Middle Last the year you entered the M-ARC program

Have you ever been convicted of (or pled no contest to) a misdemeanor or felony? [] Yes [] No

Have you had a teaching, school counselor, school psychologist, or school administrator certificate denied, suspended, or revoked? [] Yes [] No

Do you currently have any criminal charges pending against you? [] Yes [] No

(This question is asked so that we may follow-up with you regarding the outcome of the charges.)

If you responded "yes" to any of these questions, please submit a statement of explanation with this form.

You will also be asked to submit to the program one of the following documents outlining your conviction: Judgment of Sentence or Certified Register of Action. If you are later recommended by the program for teacher certification, the program will, as required by law, submit this information to the Michigan Department of Education. You are also required to notify the M-ARC program if you are convicted of a felony or misdemeanor at any time during your tenure in the program.

I affirm that the information I have provided on this form is complete and true.

Signature _____ Date _____