

# Isabelle Farrington College of Education & Human Development Applicant Statement of Understanding Regarding Background Checks & Professional Conduct

In accord with Section 10-221d of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S), admitted applicants are required to undergo a local and regional background check. The process is specific to each school district. Admitted applicants must contact the district of the field experience, internship, or student teaching and follow that district's process for completing a background check.

The applicant is hereby advised that, based on information disclosed in this background check, a school district may deny an individual's request for authorization to conduct field experiences, an internship, practicum activities, and student teaching. Such denial may prevent progress through and/or completion of the intended certification program of study. The applicant (or, if admitted, the certification or degree candidate) is solely responsible for this consequence of his/her record.

Furthermore, the CT State Department of Education (CSDE) may -- based on information disclosed by this background check -- deny issuance of a certificate to a candidate, regardless of the institutional recommendation for certification from Sacred Heart University. The program applicant (or-- if admitted -- the certification or degree candidate) is solely responsible for contacting the Bureau of Educator Standards and Certification of the CSDE to determine if the content of the background check will preclude the issuance of the teaching certificate.

The Isabelle Farrington College of Education & Human Development expects that candidates for certification will be familiar with, and conduct themselves in accordance with, the *Connecticut Common Core of Teaching (CCCT)* and the current Connecticut *Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers*. Substantial violation of the CCCT or the Code of Professional Responsibility will be a basis for dismissal from programs within the Isabelle Farrington College of Education & Human Development. Sacred Heart University, Incorporated, is hereby authorized to obtain through its own internal means and/or through external means, including but not limited to: investigating agencies, federal and state agencies, credit reporting agencies, a background check, education check, and all information, permitted by law, pertaining to the undersigned's qualifications to engage in professional preparation (including but not limited to field and clinical placements in public or private institutions, that provide education related services for children) leading to recommendation for certification or an advanced degree in Education. This information includes, but is not limited to an applicant's or candidate's personnel files, information on drug use, driving records, education verification and criminal conduct reports, and any other documents that establish an undersigned's violation of the University's Mission Statement, the Isabelle Farrington College of Education & Human Development's Conceptual Framework, the *Connecticut Common Core of Teaching* and the *Connecticut Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers and Administrators*; the undersigned's ineligibility for admission to professional

preparation programs at Sacred Heart University and/or recommendation, by Sacred Heart University, for certification to the Connecticut State Department of Education. This consent includes, but is not limited to, the lawful use of drug use testing and screening procedures, and information regarding sexual harassment issues, discrimination, criminal or anti-social behavior, both prior to and, if admitted, during the course of study at Sacred Heart University.

This authorization is also consent, to Sacred Heart University, for conducting investigations regarding and pertaining to any claims of sexual harassment or other alleged unlawful conduct, if the applicant is pursuing a degree or certification through the Isabelle Farrington College of Education & Human Development of Sacred Heart University.

If an outside agency is used to collect information and adverse action is taken against the undersigned as a result of the investigation, the undersigned will be notified and instructed to obtain a copy of the report. THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES AND UNDERSTANDS THAT THE CONSUMER REPORT SEEKING AND CONTAINING THE ABOVE INFORMATION MAY BE RETAINED FOR THE PURPOSES related to professional certification and or advanced degree.

**Respond to each of the following questions.** If you answer “yes” to any of the following questions, you will need to meet with the dean (or the dean’s appointee) of the Farrington College of Education & Human Development to discuss the issue(s) prior to an admission decision.

1. Have you ever been convicted of any crime, excluding minor traffic violations?  
Yes            No
2. Have you ever been dismissed for cause from any previous position?  
Yes            No
3. Have you ever surrendered a professional certificate, license, permit or other credential (including, but not limited to, an education credential); had one revoked, suspended, annulled, invalidated, rejected or denied for cause; or been the subject of any other adverse or disciplinary credential activity?  
Yes            No

**By typing your name below you acknowledge that you have received and read this document.**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_