



(F025-c) **Background Check & Release**
School of Education - Lake Superior State University

NAME _____ Date: _____

(Print: Last, First, Middle)

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

The State of Michigan Public Act 97 of 1995, the Revised School Code (Act 451 of 1976) and the Michigan Compiled Laws (including 380.1535a and 280.1230) require specific actions to protect the rights and well-being of the K-12 students with whom you work, your rights as a student in the LSSU Department of Education, and the rights of the university. We periodically ask all students admitted to our teacher education programs to submit Criminal Background Affidavits. Additionally, students are responsible for reporting any new criminal convictions or charges.

- Any conviction can have an impact on your ability to obtain and retain Michigan teacher certification
- Any conviction can affect your employability in a Michigan school.
- The LSSU School of Education has no authority to determine the relevance or consequence of any misdemeanor or felony conviction.
- Certain convictions can result in immediate revocation of Michigan teacher certification.
http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_5683_39798---,00.html
- Michigan has passed new (January 2006) legislation related to criminal background checks.
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/School_Safety_Legislation_Summary_Oct_05_140542_7.doc
- School districts will have access to both public and non-public records at the time of employment.
- Any conviction can delay the issuance of Michigan teacher certification.
- There is no statute of limitations on criminal offenses related to teacher certification.
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-380-1230-amended.pdf>
- Expungement of a conviction requires action by a judge and lawyer and results in documentation that indicates there was a motion to set aside the conviction, and that that motion was approved.

Academic schools and departments need information on student performance, specifically performance on subject area subdivisions, derived from the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification to identify areas of course/program strength and weakness, and to improve the program. This data is treated as confidential.

Indicate Yes/NO:

- A. _____ Have you ever been convicted of any misdemeanor or felony?
- B. _____ Have you ever entered a pleas of guilty or nolo contendere (no contest), or received a suspended sentence for any misdemeanor or felony, or the attempt to commit a misdemeanor or felony?
- C. _____ Do you currently have any charges pending against you in any jurisdiction?
- D. _____ Have you ever been dismissed, resigned from, entered into a settlement agreement or otherwise left employment to avoid investigation and/or dismissal for alleged misconduct?
- E. _____ Did you ever receive a discharge from the Armed Forces of the United States, which was other than "Honorable"?
- F. _____ Have you ever had an application for a teaching credential in Michigan or any other jurisdiction denied?
- G. _____ Have you ever had a teaching credential issued in Michigan, or any other jurisdiction suspended, revoked, nullified, or otherwise invalidated?
- H. _____ Have you ever had a teaching credential issued in Michigan, or any other jurisdiction, retain its validity with a conditional agreement?
- I. _____ Have disciplinary proceedings ever been initiated against your Michigan teaching credential or your teaching credential issued by any other jurisdiction?

For each conviction submit a copy of the Judgment of Sentence (JOS) or Record of Action (ROA) and/or other court records including the charge(s) and disposition of the case. These will be available from the

court where sentencing occurred. These records, and the explanations below, need only be provided ONE time to the LSSU School of Education. The documents will be kept in your permanent file.

Answer the following questions for each YES response in items A-I above. If there have been no changes to your status since your last signing of this form, indicate the explanations are "On File."

(You may duplicate this page if necessary, or attach additional pages – one sheet per event.)

a) What specific conviction or charge?

Fully explain the circumstances. (Attach an additional page if necessary.)

b) What was the date of conviction? _____

c) In what city and state did this occur? _____

d) In what court were you convicted? _____

e) Please provide any other facts that you consider relevant to this conviction:

RELEASE: I declare and affirm, under penalty of committing fraud in the application process, that all the statements made herein are true, complete and correct. I further declare and affirm that any conviction that occurs subsequent to the date of this document will be reported, in writing, to the School of Education, 650 W. Easterday Avenue, Lake Superior State University, Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783, and all applicable school or government authorities. By signing this form, I consent to the release of information to Lake Superior State University for the purpose of ascertaining my moral character and to the State of Michigan, Office of Professional Personnel Services, as necessary. Failure to provide this information and/or concealment or misrepresentation of information may result in denial of admission to: the teacher education program, field placements or student teaching internships; or denial of a recommendation for teacher certification, of Michigan certification, or of employment in a Michigan school.

Initial each statement acknowledging your agreement:

- I have been advised that if convicted of a felony, or specified misdemeanors, then Michigan teacher certification and employment in Michigan schools are not guaranteed, and may be prohibited by law.
- I understand that the Michigan Department of Education will review the specifics of my case at the time of my application, but that the MDE will not provide advice or guidance prior to my application.
- I understand my standing in this program is conditional upon maintaining specified professional dispositions, and that certain actions, criminal charges or convictions are cause for termination.
- I understand the advising I have received in this regard, and have elected to go forward in this program.
- I authorize the university's use of my MTTC scores to facilitate and advance programmatic and course-level assessment.

SIGNATURE _____

E-MAIL _____

TELEPHONE _____