



**DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES  
POLICY**

<b>POLICY NAME:</b>	<b>CRIMINAL BACKGROUND AND SCREENINGS</b>
<b>RESPONSIBILITY For Development/Review:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University Admin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dept. Chair/ Program Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Academic Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clinical Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faculty <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administrative Secretary
<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	Faculty
<b>DATE CREATED:</b>	5/17/2013
<b>DATE REVISED:</b>	2/14/2024
<b>REVIEWED: Annually</b>	2/26/2025
<b>SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTS:</b>	<i>Pennsylvania State Policy Request For Criminal Record Check Form          Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance Form          IdentoGO Fingerprinting Online Services          Admissions Requirements          DPAS Student and Policy Handbooks</i>
<b>OCCURANCE:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Daily <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yearly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As Needed
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To define the process and procedures for criminal background, child abuse and drug screening.
<b>POLICY:</b>	<p>Criminal background and screenings are required for matriculating into the DPAS, participating in patient care at clinical sites and progressing through the program. Prior to the student entering the program and as required for clinical experiences, the student will acquire a Pennsylvania Criminal Record check, an FBI Fingerprint check, a Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance check, and a Drug Screening report. Students are financially responsible for this process, which may need to be repeated annually or more frequently as required by the DPAS or clinical sites. Copies of verifications are to be provided to the DPAS and will remain in the student’s permanent file. Students will be instructed in the processes for obtaining these clearances and screenings by the DPAS.</p> <p>The DPAS is responsible for ensuring a drug and alcohol-free educational environment. It is a violation of this policy for any student to use, possess or sell illegal drugs or lawful drugs (prescribed or over-the counter) illegally and/or be chemically impaired due to alcohol and/or legal or lawful drugs while on campus, on clinical experiences, or otherwise in conjunction with the University or its activities. Violations of this policy, including confirmed findings, concern for chemical impairment, or refusal to participate in any requirements of this policy, are grounds for denial to matriculate into the DPAS or dismissal from the program.</p> <p>Adverse results on clearances or screenings at any time can prevent a student from matriculating into and through the DPAS, and/or being placed at clinical training sites or recommended for graduation. Adverse results, including felony and/or misdemeanor convictions, can limit the ability for clinical training experiences, national certification or</p>

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	state licensure. If a student is charged with a felony and/or misdemeanor while in the DPAS, the student must inform the Department Chair/Program Director. The National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants, <a href="http://www.NCCPA.net">www.NCCPA.net</a> , is a good resource for guidance for concerns with background findings.
<b>OTHER NOTES:</b>	