Criminal Background Studies

Based on amendments to the Vulnerable Adult Act in 1995 and 1996, Minnesota Law requires that any person who provides services involving direct contact with patients and residents at hospitals, nursing homes and other health care facilities licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health have a background study conducted by this state agency.

All students in CAHP must successfully complete a criminal background study prior to their first semester of enrollment in their program of study. CAHP Student Services will communicate information about completing the study in orientation materials during the summer prior to starting the academic program. Education programs are authorized to request that students initiate the background studies. Each student must maintain a copy of their results for the duration of their enrollment in the academic program and provide a copy to the fieldwork or clinical experience provider when requested.

A student who receives a disqualification from having patient contact from the background study will require further review. If a disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health through a reconsideration process, the student may not be accepted for fieldwork or clinical placement at licensed facilities, and therefore, may not be eligible for a degree in their program. Additionally, a felony conviction may affect a student's ability to sit for appropriate certification examination or attain state licensure.