

## **Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association**

### **Position Statement on background check requirements for students completing clinical experience**

#### **Background:**

Partnerships between hospitals and academic facilities have played a vital role in workforce development, improved patient care, and quality healthcare in the Miami Valley. As a result, students representing a variety of healthcare disciplines from a number of academic institutions are welcomed into area hospitals to complete required clinical experience.

The State of Ohio has several statutory requirements that applicants for employment receive criminal record checks. Background checks apply to applicants for employment in:

- nursing homes (including SNFs) that provide care to persons age 60 and older,
- home health that provides care to minors or older adults,
- children's hospitals (not community hospitals with pediatric services),
- hospices that provide care to minors or older adults,
- adult day care providing services to older adults,
- day care for minors,
- volunteers of organizations where the volunteer would have unsupervised access to a child, and
- Others not applicable to traditional healthcare (e.g., related to teaching).

Additionally, applicants for nurse licenses are required to complete a criminal background check.

Many Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association members require a criminal record check as part of the employment process.

While these requirements exist for employment by the State of Ohio, the State Board of Nursing, and many area hospitals, there are no statutes or regulations relating to students completing clinical experience in healthcare facilities.

#### **Position:**

While members of the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association remain committed to supporting the role of clinical experience for a variety of healthcare disciplines, patient safety and quality of care remain vital to hospital operations. In order to assure the safety of patients, Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association members require students completing clinical experience with any unsupervised patient contact to complete and present a basic background check from the State of Ohio's Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation prior to beginning that clinical experience.

The background check must be completed within ninety days prior to beginning the clinical experience. If the student has not been a resident in the State of Ohio within the past five years, a federal background check must also be completed.