

Background Check Procedures

Background checks are valid for a period of five years. If you have had a background check done through the Educator License office within the past five years, you do not need to complete another one. If you don't complete your program within the five years, you will have to complete another background check. Cleared background checks are required for licensure. **The State Office will not accept copies of background checks done elsewhere, including school districts.** You will be notified by email when your background application is complete by the Utah State Board of Education (USBE). Please attach that email to your Teacher Education Application. Only on-line background check applications will be accepted by the Utah State Board of Education. (Cards are no longer accepted.)

Students are required to inform TEAL if they have been arrested or convicted of violating any law except for minor traffic violations while they are a student in any Education major. Questions? Please call Lisa Christensen at 435-797-1443 or email at lisa.christensen@usu.edu.

STEP 1

Go to <https://secure.utah.gov/elr/welcome.html> and click on the Background Check button. Click on 'Initial License'. Follow the online instructions.

STEP 2

Once you have completed the online application, you will receive an email with a pdf attached which is the authorization form. Print this form and take it to a live scan fingerprinting site <https://www.schools.utah.gov/file/448c5a84-d4f5-482d-8af6-cae0663c3ad8>. You will not be able to have your fingers scanned unless you have this form.

NOTE:

Your background check is not complete until you've had your fingers scanned. USBE has a 60 day time limit on your background check request. If you do not have your fingers scanned within 60 days, you will have to restart the application on the USBE site.

***If your background will be expiring near the time you will be recommended for licensure, you can start the renewal process 30 days before it expires. Contact Lisa Christensen at 435-797-1443 for more information.