



STUDENT BACKGROUND CHECK & DRUG SCREENING INFORMATION

To comply with the requirements of accrediting organizations, clinical/field placement affiliates, state and federal laws governing licensing, and potential employers, certain programs at HGTC require students to have acceptable criminal background checks (CBC) and/or urine drug screening (UDS) and/or appropriate health information/immunizations to participate in placement(s) at clinical and field facilities. Typically, these checks and proof of health information/immunizations must be provided prior to the start of the first semester requiring clinical/field placement. Admission to or registration of courses for any of the programs with additional requirements is conditional. Unsatisfactory results on the criminal background check or urine drug screening, or failure to complete any required health/immunization standards WILL prevent enrollment or result in the removal from the program of study if currently enrolled.

Programs with additional requirements

PROGRAM	CBC Required	UDS Required
Nursing (students enrolled in clinical courses)	X	X
Health Science Programs (students enrolled in clinical courses)	X	X
Cybersecurity (1 st semester)	X	
Criminal Justice	X	
Police Pre-Academy	X	
Early Care & Education (ECD 102)	X	
Early Childhood Development (ECD 102)	X	
Teacher Education (EDU 102, 110)	X	
Human Services (HUS 230)	X	
Cosmetology	X	X
Esthetics	X	X
Massage Therapy	X	X

Below is important information for students on the background check and drug screening requirements for HGTC.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS (CBC)

Conviction of certain crimes may make a student ineligible to apply for licensure, to take certification examinations or for employment in certain fields. As such, HGTC reserves the right to disallow admission into certain programs of study if students are considered ineligible as defined by the guidelines listed here or others that may come into existence.

In situations in which a student has a conviction of, plea of guilty, plea of nolo contendere (no contest), or pending criminal charges the program MAY bar admission to or DISMISS a student from a clinical course or program of study:

- Crimes involving violence against the person, including, but not limited to: murder, manslaughter, use of deadly force, assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature, assault and battery with intent to kill, sex crimes, abuse of children or the elderly, abduction, robbery;
- Crimes occurring involving the distribution of drugs;
- Crimes occurring involving illegal use or possession of weapons, including, but not limited to: guns, knives, explosives or other dangerous objects;
- Crimes occurring involving dishonesty or moral turpitude, including, but not limited to: fraud, deception, embezzlement, financial exploitation, shoplifting, petit larceny, bad check; and
- Any other crime(s) or pattern of recurrent criminal or illegal behavior(s) will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Please note Driving under the Influence (DUI) and Driving under Suspension (DUS) are NOT considered minor traffic violations. These patterns of behavior may result in withdrawal from the program of study.

The background investigation starts at the time the student becomes an adult or the "age of majority". The following searches conducted include but are not limited to: US, Federal, State, and County Criminal History, National Sex Offender Registry, Patriot Act thru OFAC, FACIS (Fraud Abuse Control Information System), Office of Inspector General, and General Services Administration (GSA).

Criminal Background Check Findings: Completed criminal background checks will be reviewed and indicated by a "Negative" or "Positive" result. If a negative criminal background check is returned by the vendor, the student will be considered to have satisfied that portion of the eligibility requirement for progression into clinical/field placement.

Positive Result: If a "positive" background check is returned, the student will be notified to discuss the problem and may be required to provide additional information as part of the application, such as the terms or conditions of any plea, penalty, punishment, sentence, probation or parole; details regarding the offense; and the applicant's reflections on the experience. In addition, letters of character reference and a resume may be required. If the student believes the background check is in error and can provide documentation of records expunged or pardoned, then the background check will be reviewed by the dean, department chair and/or clinical affiliates to determine eligibility for clinical placement. If the student is unable to refute the background check finding(s), the student may be ineligible for progression into clinical/field placement.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Current and new students **MUST** notify the Clinical Admissions Office **and** the Department Chair and/or the Program Director of any arrests, charges, situations or incidents (including taking illegal drugs) that occur against the student **AFTER a background check is purchased but no later than seven (7) calendar days** of such charge or conviction. Failure to notify the CA Office may result in dismissal from the program.
- Current and new students **MUST** notify the Clinical Admissions Office **and** the Department Chair and/or the Program Director of any arrests or charges filed against the student that are **not appearing on the background check**. Failure to notify the Clinical Admissions Office and the Program Director may result in dismissal from the program.

URINE DRUG SCREENING (UDS)

Urine drug screening reports will be reviewed and indicated by a "Negative" or "Positive" result. If a negative urine drug screening is returned by the vendor, the student will be considered to have satisfied the eligibility requirement for progression into clinical/field placement.

Positive Result: If a "positive" urine drug screening is returned, the Clinical Admissions Office will notify the dean and department chair. The ability to be accepted into the program, progress in the program, and/or successfully complete the program may be negatively impacted.

Concerning the Use of Marijuana and/or CBD Products

Marijuana is a Schedule 1 drug and is illegal to purchase in South Carolina. Apart from a narrow and limited scope of codified/documented medical exceptions, it is illegal for individuals to use marijuana/tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in South Carolina. Although cannabidiol (CBD) products may be purchased and used in South Carolina, please be aware CBD products may contain higher levels of THC than represented on packaging and use of CBD products can result in a positive drug screen for THC/marijuana. Be aware current drug testing methods cannot accurately ascertain the origins of THC metabolites (i.e., whether from marijuana or CBD products). The healthcare affiliates your academic program utilizes may request to conduct random and/or scheduled drug testing; if the test result is reported as positive for THC metabolites (even if you only used a CBD product), your ability to be accepted into the program, progress in the program, and/or successfully complete the program may be negatively impacted.