



About the AAMC-Facilitated Background Check Service

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) recommends that all US medical schools procure a national background check on applicants upon their conditional acceptance to medical school. The rationale for performing criminal background checks on accepted medical school applicants is based on a number of issues, including the need to enhance the safety and well-being of patients and, in so doing, to bolster the public's continuing trust in the medical profession, and to ascertain the ability of accepted applicants to eventually become licensed physicians.

The AAMC has initiated an AMCAS-facilitated national background check service, through which Certiphi Screening, Inc. (Vertical Screen® Company) will procure a national background report on early decision program applicants at the point of acceptance and all other applicants at the point of acceptance after January 1st. In addition, beginning in May of each year, a national background report will be procured for a subset of applicants who are on a participating school's alternate list; medical schools will not receive such reports at the point of acceptance. The AAMC has initiated this service in order to recognize the desire of medical schools to procure appropriate national criminal history reports and to prevent applicants from paying additional fees at each medical school to which they are accepted.

During the AMCAS 2010 application year, participating medical schools may continue to require applicants to undergo a separate national background check process, if required to do so by their own institutional regulations or by applicable state law. Many medical schools not participating may also require applicants to undergo a separate national background check process.

Background Check Details

Certiphi Screening, Inc. will procure a b

