

Child Advocacy Studies Program

Placement Background Check Experiential Learning Policy

Approved By and Date:	Executive Leadership Team	09/15/2025
	ICore	09/10/2025

I. Purpose

This policy ensures that students participating in experiential learning, field placements, and volunteer service with community agencies understand and comply with background check requirements established by host agencies. While Stanly Community College does not independently require criminal background checks for participation in Child Advocacy Studies coursework, we respect and uphold agency-specific requirements to maintain professional and legal standards.

II. Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in Child Advocacy Studies (CAST) and related courses that include service learning, volunteer hours, or experiential learning placements at external partner agencies.

III. Policy Statement

1. Institutional Requirement

- a. Stanly Community College does not mandate criminal background checks for participation in experiential learning in the Child Advocacy Studies program/courses.
- b. However, when a host agency requires a background check, students must comply with that agency's policy as a condition of placement.

2. Student Responsibility

- a. Students are responsible for completing any required background check at their own expense, unless otherwise stated by the agency.
- b. Students must submit proof of clearance to the agency (not the college) as directed.

3. Confidentiality

- a. Background check results are reviewed and retained by the placement agency only. Stanly Community College does not receive or store background check records.
- b. The institution only receives confirmation from the agency of a student's eligibility or ineligibility to participate.

4. Failure to Meet Agency Standards

- a. If a student is denied placement due to results of a background check, the college will make reasonable efforts to identify an alternate placement site.
- b. However, successful placement cannot be guaranteed if a student's background disqualifies them from multiple partner agencies.
- c. In such cases, students may be unable to complete the course or program requirements.

5. Notice to Students

- a. Students will be informed of potential background check requirements during Work-Based Learning (WBL) course orientation, advising, or prior to placement assignments.
- b. Students are encouraged to disclose concerns to the WBL Instructor early to discuss options.

IV. Non-Discrimination Statement

Stanly Community College does not practice or condone discrimination against students, employees, or applicants on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability consistent with the following federal legislation, as amended: the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1992.

Criminal offenses may legally or contractually prevent placement in certain agencies. This may impact a student's ability to complete program requirements.

V. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed every three years and updated to align with community partner requirements and accreditation standards.