



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

Subject: Form and Instructions for Fingerprint-based Federal Background Check

Dear Washington State Nursing Applicant:

Thank you for submitting your application for a credential in Washington State. In order to complete your requirements for licensure you must now get a fingerprint-based background check.

Your next step will be to visit your local law enforcement agency to have your fingerprints recorded on the enclosed card. It's important that you use the card we provided and that you visit an agency that frequently completes fingerprinting, such as a state patrol agency, sheriff's office or police department. The instruction sheet provides helpful hints for getting good-quality fingerprints and lists the most common reasons fingerprints are rejected.

Getting good-quality prints is critical because one of the most common reasons prints are rejected is poor or improper technique. A rejected card can affect our ability to process your application in a timely manner.

Once you complete your fingerprint cards, use the envelope we provided to return the completed card, a check or money order for \$34.25 and this letter. Make your check out to the Department of Health. If you would like to pay with a Visa or MasterCard, please call us at 360-236-4973 seven to 10 days after you mail us your fingerprint card and this letter. Don't write your credit card number on the fingerprint card or this letter. All payments are non-refundable.

After we receive your payment and fingerprint card, we'll scan the card and send it to the Washington State Patrol, which will forward your fingerprint card to the Federal Bureau of Investigation

If there is a problem with your prints, we'll notify you by mail and provide you with an additional card or cards. If your fingerprint-based background check shows a criminal history, we may ask for more information.

If you have any questions, please call us at 360-236-4703.

Sincerely,

Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission
Department of Health
Health Systems Quality Assurance
Office of Customer Service – Credentialing

What would you like to do?

Return this letter with the box(es) selected:

- I will call you in seven to 10 business days with my Visa or MasterCard number.
 I am submitting a check or money order made payable to the Department of Health.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date of Signature: _____

Noncriminal Justice Applicant's Privacy Rights

As an applicant who is the subject of a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check for a noncriminal justice purpose (such as an application for a job or license, an immigration or naturalization matter, security clearance, or adoption), you have certain rights which are discussed below.

- You must be provided written notification¹ that your fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI.
- If you have a criminal history record, the officials making a determination of your suitability for the job, license, or other benefit must provide you the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information in the record.
- The officials must advise you that the procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or updating of your criminal history record are set forth at Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 16.34.
- If you have a criminal history record, you should be afforded a reasonable amount of time to correct or complete the record (or decline to do so) before the officials deny you the job, license, or other benefit based on information in the criminal history record.²

You have the right to expect that officials receiving the results of the criminal history record check will use it only for authorized purposes and will not retain or disseminate it in violation of federal statute, regulation or executive order, or rule, procedure or standard established by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council.³

If agency policy permits, the officials may provide you with a copy of your FBI criminal history record for review and possible challenge. If agency policy does not permit it to provide you a copy of the record, you may obtain a copy of the record by submitting fingerprints and a fee to the FBI. Information regarding this process may be obtained at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/background-checks>.

If you decide to challenge the accuracy or completeness of your FBI criminal history record, you should send your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information to the FBI. Alternatively, you may send your challenge directly to the FBI. The FBI will then forward your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information and request the agency to verify or correct the challenged entry. Upon receipt of an official communication from that agency, the FBI will make any necessary changes/corrections to your record in accordance with the information supplied by that agency. (See 28 CFR 16.30 through 16.34.)

Instructions for Submitting a Fingerprint Card

General information

You must complete and submit the fingerprint card as part of your application. You must use the fingerprint card provided. The department will send the card to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for processing. We cannot accept previous fingerprinting done with another agency. Return the completed fingerprint card and processing fee to the department. State law (RCW 18.130.064) allows the department to conduct fingerprint-based criminal background checks.

Where do I get fingerprinted?

At your local law enforcement office. We will accept digital fingerprints done by a private agency or law enforcement if they are printed on the provided fingerprint card. We will not accept fingerprints done by an applicant.

How to complete the fingerprint card

For prompt and accurate processing of your fingerprint card:

- Print clearly in black ink.
- Stay in the blocks. Do not go over the blue lines.
- Ensure your name on the card and the name on your application is identical.
- Do not staple the card.
- Do not fold the fingerprint card.
- After prints have been completed, have technician place fingerprint card in envelope provided with technician's signature across the seal. Make sure to include the payment in the envelope.

Abbreviations:

Residence	Submit your street address, not mailing.
Place of Birth	Enter two letter state abbreviations or spell out a foreign country.
Race	A = Asian/Pacific Islander I = American Indian/Alaskan Indian B = Black W = White U = Unknown
Weight (WGT)	Express in pounds rounding to the nearest pound. Ex: 139lb. Do not use Metric.
Aliases/AKA	Enter any aliases including maiden name.
Sex	F = Female M = Male
Height (HGT)	Express in feet and inches rounding to the nearest inch. Ex: 5'9" Do not use metric.

Helpful hints for obtaining good quality fingerprints

If the person being fingerprinted has dry hands, put a small amount of lotion on the middle of the fingertip and work the lotion into the fingers until absorbed, for approximately two minutes. This will help put moisture back into the fingers and the ink will adhere better. There are several different types of moisturizers to use:

1. Lotions (i.e., Corn Huskers, Baby, Jergens, Nivea, etc.)
2. Dishwashing liquid (i.e., Palmolive, Joy, Dawn, Ivory Liquid, etc.)

If the person has moist hands, wipe each finger individually with rubbing alcohol or an alcohol swab and let dry before beginning the printing process. This will take some of the moisture out of the fingers and will allow an appropriate amount of ink to adhere to the surface of the fingers.

If the fingers are excessively moist, also wipe each finger with a lint-free paper towel or cloth prior to printing.

Reasons why fingerprints are rejected

- The card is incomplete.
- The card is folded or bent.
- The fingerprints are not legible.
- Our scanner cannot read the information if there is highlighter on the fingerprint image blocks.
- Our scanner cannot read the information if the fingerprint image bleeds onto the blue line or overlaps the borders of the block.
- There is more than one tab per fingerprint block. It is okay to put on one tab and retake an image if the first print image on a finger was bad. If the second print is also bad, you cannot use a second tab. A new card will have to be completed.
- There is writing in the fingerprint blocks. The only exceptions are amputated (amp) or finger bandaged (BND).
- There are staples on the card.
- A “Best Prints Possible” stamp is on the card.
- The prints are not straight up and down on the card.