

Health Regulation and Licensing Administration

May 25, 2023

RE: Criminal Background Check

Dear District of Columbia Stakeholders,

DC Health and the Health Regulation and Licensing Administration (HRLA) are currently in the process of updating the Health Occupations Revision Act and several regulations to ensure that we continue to align with best practices, national standards, and legal requirements. District of Columbia law currently requires that all applications for licensure, certification or registration have a criminal background check (CBC) completed and reviewed before issuance. This includes all renewals and limited licenses, certifications, and registrations such as Medical Training Licenses (MTLs) and Medical Training Registrations (MTRs). To address continuing workforce shortages and ensure that licenses, registrations, and certifications are issued as timely and efficiently as possible, DC Health announces the following changes:

Effective immediately, all applicants will be required to complete a new CBC for each application submitted. Subsequent CBCs will be conducted utilizing the name search process. Applicants that have already applied and did not pay the applicable fee (\$50) will receive a link to pay the fee, which will give the authorization to initiate the search. Additionally, it is important for renewing applicants to be aware of the time required to complete the CBC process and complete their applications in a timely manner. An applicant submitting a renewal application and initiating a CBC in the last week of the licensure/registration/certification term should be aware that the issuance of the renewed license/registration/certification may not occur before the expiration date. Results traditionally are available within 2-3 days of submission.

Our goal is to ensure that all qualified individuals are licensed, certified, or registered in a timely manner to serve the residents of the District of Columbia. Updates to our webpages and checklists (if applicable) are forthcoming. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

DC Health