



Elmhurst University requires criminal history records to be checked to support our school partners, however, the University review does not automatically mean a teacher candidate will be licensed to teach by the Illinois State Board of Education.

An arrest or conviction at any time prior to recommendation for licensure to ISBE must be reported to the Chair of the Dept. of Education, regardless of whether or not it is time to submit to a full Criminal Background Check.

Article 21-1 of the Illinois School Code requires that all persons who seek teacher licensure must be of good character. As one measure of fulfilling Article 21-1, you must mark each of the following statements as "Yes" or "No."

Yes / No

Have you had a certificate or license denied, suspended or revoked in Illinois or any other state?

Have you been convicted of a felony, or any sex, narcotics or drug offense in Illinois or any other state?

Have you failed to file a tax return with the Illinois Department of Revenue, or failed to pay any tax, penalty, or interest owed or any final assessment of same for any tax as required by law administered by the Department that was not subsequently resolved to the Department's satisfaction?

Have you been indicated as a perpetrator of child abuse or neglect by a state agency responsible for child welfare? (Note: You must answer "Yes" to this question even if the report was removed from the State Central register due to expiration of the retention period, but you may answer "No" to this question if the finding was reversed on appeal.)

Are you in default on a Illinois student loan for which you have failed to establish a satisfactory repayment plan with the Illinois Student Assistance Commission?

Have you ever been removed from or denied admission to a teacher licensure program?

Have you been found in violation of the student code of conduct at Elmhurst University or another institution of higher education?

#### ARTICLE 21-1 OF THE ILLINOIS SCHOOL CODE STATEMENTS

*I do hereby affirm that the information provided above is true, correct and complete. Applicants who knowingly alter or misrepresent their qualifications in order to obtain a license shall be denied its issuance and may be subject to the suspension or revocation of all previously held licenses.*

*I certify, under penalty of perjury, that I do not have a child support order, and/or that I am not more than 30 days delinquent in complying with a child support order. I understand that I must sign this statement, whether or not I have children, and failure to certify may result in disciplinary action, and making a false statement may subject me to contempt of court. A written explanation is required for those unable to complete this certification.*

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Checking this box and typing your name is proof of your Signature.

Date

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

*I certify that all information provided is complete, authentic, and accurate.*

*I certify that my personal statement is original and has not been submitted with another application, or used in any coursework, or adapted from any other source. I also attest that my personal statement was written and edited by me. I certify that I have read and understood the Elmhurst University Criminal Background Policy for Teacher Candidates. Refer to [Criminal Background Policy](#).*

*I understand that providing incomplete, plagiarized, or false information will result in disciplinary action as outlined by the Elmhurst University Academic Integrity Policy and denial of admission to or removal from all teacher education programs at Elmhurst University.*

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Checking this box and typing your name is proof of your Signature.

Date

## **Personal Statement**

In the space below, in 500 words or less, provide the following information:

Complete a well-written personal statement as part of the application. Personal statements should be written as a maximum 500 word statement and pasted into the application.

A personal statement must address the following topics:

- a. Your primary reason for seeking a Professional Educator License in Elementary and Special Education.
- b. Your experiences in working with elementary-aged children and/or or children with disabilities and their families in professional settings. Include references to any recommendation that will be completed by a professional educator who has supervised you in the field.
- c. Additional goals you have as a future teacher.

**Save this application as lastnameSPELapplication.pdf  
and e-mail it to spe@elmhurst.edu**