

**TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
COMMITTEE ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

**POLICY REGARDING APPLICATIONS
WITH CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS**

Applicants whose application or Criminal Background Check reveals a single misdemeanor conviction need not appear before the Committee if more than five (5) years have elapsed between the date of the conviction and the date of application, unless the underlying facts or circumstances suggest to the Committee Consultant a need for further inquiry.

Applicants whose application or Criminal Background Check reveals a felony conviction, regardless of the date, **MUST** appear before the Committee.

If an applicant's application or Criminal Background Check reveals either of the following and the Committee Consultant determines that the Committee would benefit from having the applicant being referred to the Tennessee Medical Foundation for an evaluation prior to being interviewed, then the Committee Consultant may make such a referral prior to the Committee interviewing the applicant:

- (1) more than one misdemeanor conviction, regardless of the date; or
- (2) a misdemeanor conviction that occurred less than five (5) years prior to the date of application;

If the Tennessee Medical Foundation evaluation results recommend monitoring or any other additional step, then the applicant **MUST** appear before the Committee with such evaluation results.

If the Tennessee Medical Foundation evaluation results do **NOT** recommend monitoring or any other further steps, then the Committee empowers the Committee Consultant to issue the applicant a license with no further restrictions or steps.

If the applicant would prefer to appear before the Committee concerning his or her application rather than first obtaining a Tennessee Medical Foundation evaluation, then the applicant may appear before the Committee without obtaining such an evaluation and the Committee can determine the next steps, including the possible need for a Tennessee Medical Foundation evaluation.

Adopted by the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners Committee on Physician Assistants on April 3, 2020.

Approved by the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners on May 27, 2020.