

CONSUMER DISCLOSURE AND AUTHORIZATION FORM

Disclosure Regarding Background Investigation

MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF BOARDS OF EDUCATION (the “Company”) may request, for lawful employment purposes, background information about you from a consumer reporting agency in connection with your employment or application for employment (including independent contractor assignments, as applicable). This background information may be obtained in the form of consumer reports and/or investigative consumer reports (commonly known as “background reports”). An “investigative consumer report” is a background report that includes information from personal interviews (except in California, where that term includes background reports with or without information obtained from personal interviews), the most common form of which is checking personal or professional references. These background reports may be obtained at any time after receipt of your authorization and, if you are hired or engaged by the Company, throughout your employment or your contract period, as allowed by law.

HireRight, Inc. (“HireRight”), or another consumer reporting agency, will prepare or assemble the background reports for the Company. HireRight is located and can be contacted by mail at 5151 California, Irvine, CA 92617, and HireRight can be contacted by phone at (800) 400-2761. Information about HireRight’s privacy practices is available at www.hireright.com/Privacy-Policy.aspx.

The background report may contain information concerning your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, mode of living, and credit standing. The types of information that may be obtained include, but are not limited to: social security number verifications; address history; credit reports and history; criminal records and history; public court records; driving records; accident history; worker’s compensation claims; bankruptcy filings; educational history verifications (e.g., dates of attendance, degrees obtained); employment history verifications (e.g., dates of employment, salary information, reasons for termination, etc.); personal and professional references checks; professional licensing and certification checks; drug/alcohol testing results, and drug/alcohol history in violation of law and/or company policy; and other information bearing on your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, mode of living and credit standing.

This information may be obtained from private and public record sources, including, as appropriate: government agencies and courthouses; educational institutions; former employers; and, for investigative consumer reports, personal interviews with sources such as neighbors, friends, former employers and associates; and other information sources. If the Company should obtain information bearing on your credit worthiness, credit standing or credit capacity for reasons other than as required by law, then the Company will use such credit information to evaluate whether you would present an unacceptable risk of theft or other dishonest behavior in the job for which you are being evaluated.

You may request more information about the nature and scope of an investigative consumer report, if any, by contacting the Company.

A summary of your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, as well as certain state-specific notices, are also being provided to you.

Applicant Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

* Pages 8-12 are only relevant if coming from CA, NJ, NY or WA.

**DISCLOSURE AND AUTHORIZATION REGARDING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION FOR
EMPLOYMENT PURPOSES**

DISCLOSURE

Maryland Association of Boards of Education (the “Company”) may request from a consumer reporting agency and for employment-related purposes, a “consumer report(s)” (commonly known as “background reports”) containing background information about you in connection with your employment, or application for employment, or engagement for services (including independent contractor or volunteer assignments, as applicable).

HireRight, LLC (“HireRight”) will prepare or assemble the background reports for the company. HireRight is located and can be contacted at 3349 Michelson Drive, Suite 150, Irvine, CA 92612, (800) 400-2761, www.hireright.com.

The background report(s) may contain information concerning your character, general reputation, personal characteristics, mode of living, or credit standing. The types of background information that may be obtained include but are not limited to: criminal history; litigation history; motor vehicle record and accident history; social security number verification; address and alias history; credit history; verification of your education, employment and earnings history; professional licensing, credential and certification checks; drug/alcohol testing results and history; military service; and other information.

AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize Company to obtain the consumer reports described above about me.

Applicant Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Authorization of Background Investigation

I have carefully read and understand this Disclosure and Authorization form and the attached summary of rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. By my signature below, I consent to preparation of background reports by a consumer reporting agency such as HireRight, Inc. ("HireRight"), and to the release of such background reports to the Company and its designated representatives and agents, for the purpose of assisting the Company in making a determination as to my eligibility for employment (including independent contractor assignments, as applicable), promotion, retention or for other lawful employment purposes. I understand that if the Company hires me or contracts for my services, my consent will apply, and the Company may, as allowed by law, obtain additional background reports pertaining to me, without asking for my authorization again, throughout my employment or contract period from HireRight and/or other consumer reporting agencies.

I understand that information contained in my employment or contractor application, or otherwise disclosed by me before or during my employment or contract assignment, if any, may be used for the purpose of obtaining and evaluating background reports on me. I also understand that nothing herein shall be construed as an offer of employment or contract for services.

I hereby authorize all of the following, without limitation, to disclose information about me to the consumer reporting agency and its agents: law enforcement and all other federal, state and local agencies, learning institutions (including public and private schools, colleges and universities), testing agencies, information service bureaus, credit bureaus, record/data repositories, courts (federal, state and local), motor vehicle records agencies, my past or present employers, the military, and all other individuals and sources with any information about or concerning me. The information that can be disclosed to the consumer reporting agency and its agents includes, but is not limited to, information concerning my employment and earnings history, education, credit history, motor vehicle history, criminal history, military service, professional credentials and licenses.

By my signature below, I also certify the information I provided on and in connection with this form is true, accurate and complete. I agree that this form in original, faxed, photocopied or electronic (including electronically signed) form, will be valid for any background reports that may be requested by or on behalf of the Company.

California, Minnesota or Oklahoma applicants only: Please check this box if you would like to receive (whenever you have such right under the applicable state law) a copy of your background report if one is obtained on you by the Company.

Applicant Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION FOR CONSUMER REPORTING AGENCY

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Middle:** _____

Other Names Used _____ Years Used _____

Current Address: _____
Street /P. O. Box City State Zip Code County Dates

Former Address: _____
Street /P. O. Box City State Zip Code County Dates

*Social Security Number: _____ Daytime Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Driver's License Number: _____ State of Issuance: _____

*Date of Birth: _____ *Gender _____

* This information will be used only for background screening purposes and will not be taken into consideration in any employment decisions.

Para información en español, visite www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore o escribe a la Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington DC 20552.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under the FCRA. **For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.**

- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** Anyone who uses a credit report or another type of consumer report to deny your application for credit, insurance, or employment - or to take another adverse action against you - must tell you, and must give you the name, address, and phone number of the agency that provided the information.
- **You have the right to know what is in your file.** You may request and obtain all the information about you in the files of a consumer reporting agency (your “file disclosure”). You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You are entitled to a free file disclosure if:
 - a person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit report;
 - you are the victim of identity theft and place a fraud alert in your file;
 - your file contains inaccurate information as a result of fraud;
 - you are on public assistance;
 - you are unemployed but expect to apply for employment within 60 days.
- In addition, all consumers are entitled to one free disclosure every 12 months upon request from each nationwide credit bureau and from nationwide specialty consumer reporting agencies. See www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore for additional information.
- **You have the right to ask for a credit score.** Credit scores are numerical summaries of your credit-worthiness based on information from credit bureaus. You may request a credit score from consumer reporting agencies that create scores or distribute scores used in residential real property loans, but you will have to pay for it. In some mortgage transactions, you will receive credit score information for free from the mortgage lender.
- **You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and report it to the consumer reporting agency, the agency must investigate unless your dispute is frivolous. See www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore for an explanation of dispute procedures.
- **Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Inaccurate, incomplete or unverifiable information must be removed or corrected, usually within 30 days. However, a consumer reporting agency may continue to report information it has verified as accurate.
- **Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.** In most cases, a consumer reporting agency may not report negative information that is more than seven years old, or bankruptcies that are more than 10 years old.
- **Access to your file is limited.** A consumer reporting agency may provide information about you only to people with a valid need -- usually to consider an application with a creditor, insurer, employer, landlord, or other business. The FCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.

- **You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.** A consumer reporting agency may not give out information about you to your employer, or a potential employer, without your written consent given to the employer. Written consent generally is not required in the trucking industry. For more information, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.
- **You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** Unsolicited "prescreened" offers for credit and insurance must include a toll-free phone number you can call if you choose to remove your name and address from the lists these offers are based on. You may opt-out with the nationwide credit bureaus at 1-888-567-8688.
- **You may seek damages from violators.** If a consumer reporting agency, or, in some cases, a user of consumer reports or a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency violates the FCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.
- **Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.** For more information, visit www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore.

States may enforce the FCRA, and many states have their own consumer reporting laws. In some cases, you may have more rights under state law. For more information, contact your state or local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General. For Information about your Federal rights contact:

TYPE OF BUSINESS:	CONTACT:
<p>1. a. Banks, savings associations, and credit unions with total assets of over \$10 billion and their affiliates.</p> <p>b. Such affiliates that are not banks, savings associations, or credit unions also should list, in addition to the CFPB:</p>	<p>a. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau 1700 G Street NW Washington, DC 20552</p> <p>b. Federal Trade Commission: Consumer Response Center – FCRA Washington, DC 20580 (877) 382-4357</p>
<p>2. To the extent not included in item 1 above:</p> <p>a. National banks, federal savings associations and federal branches and federal agencies of foreign banks</p> <p>b. State member banks, branches and agencies of foreign banks (other than federal branches, federal agencies and Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks), commercial lending companies owned or controlled by foreign banks, and organizations operating under section 25 or 25A of the Federal Reserve Act</p> <p>c. Nonmember Insured Banks, Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks, and insured state savings associations</p> <p>d. Federal Credit Unions</p>	<p>a. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Customer Assistance Group 1301 McKinney Street, Suite 3450 Houston, TX 77010-9050</p> <p>b. Federal Reserve Consumer Help Center PO Box 1200 Minneapolis, MN 55480</p> <p>c. FDIC Consumer Response Center 1100 Walnut St., Box #11 Kansas City, MO 64106</p> <p>d. National Credit Union Administration Office of Consumer Protection (OCP) Division of Consumer Compliance and Outreach (DCCO) 1775 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314</p>

3. Air carriers	Asst. General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement & Proceedings Aviation Consumer Protection Division Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20590
4. Creditors Subject to Surface Transportation Board	Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board Department of Transportation 395 E Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20423
5. Creditors Subject to Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921	Nearest Packers and Stockyards Administration area Supervisor
6. Small Business Investment Companies	Associate Deputy Administrator for Capital Access United States Small Business Administration 409 Third Street, SW, 8th Floor Washington, DC 20416
7. Brokers and Dealers	Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549
8. Federal Land Banks, Federal Land Bank Associations, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks and Production Credit Associations	Farm Credit Administration 1501 Farm Credit Drive McLean, VA 22102-5090
9. Retailers, Finance Companies, and All Other Creditors Not Listed Above	FTC Regional Office for region in which the creditor operates or Federal Trade Commission: Consumer Response Center - FCRA Washington, DC 20580 (877) 382-4357

ADDITIONAL STATE LAW NOTICES

If you are an applicant, employee or contractor in any of the states listed below, please also note the following:

CALIFORNIA: Pursuant to section 1786.22 of the California Civil Code, you may view the file maintained on you by the consumer reporting agency (e.g., HireRight) during normal business hours. You may also obtain a copy of this file, upon submitting proper identification and paying the costs of duplication services, by appearing at the consumer reporting agency's offices in person, during normal business hours and on reasonable notice, or by certified mail. You may also receive a summary of the file by telephone, upon submitting proper identification and written request. The consumer reporting agency has trained personnel available to explain your file to you, including any coded information, and will provide a written explanation of any coded information contained in your file. If you appear in person, you may be accompanied by one other person, provided that person furnishes proper identification. "Proper identification" includes documents such as a valid driver's license, social security account number, military identification card, and credit cards. If you cannot identify yourself with such information, the consumer reporting agency may require additional information concerning your employment and personal or family history to verify your identity. Additional California-specific information is set out below.

MAINE: You have the right, upon request, to be informed of whether an investigative consumer report was requested, and if one was requested, the name and address of the consumer reporting agency furnishing the report. You may request and receive from the Company, within five business days of our receipt of your request, the name, address and telephone number of the nearest office designated to handle inquiries for the consumer reporting agency issuing an investigative consumer report concerning you. You also have the right, under Maine law, to request and promptly receive from all such consumer reporting agencies copies of any such reports.

MASSACHUSETTS: You have the right to know whether the Company requested an investigative consumer report about you and, upon written request to the Company, to receive a copy of any such report. You also have the right to ask the consumer reporting agency (e.g., HireRight) for a copy of any such report.

MINNESOTA: You have the right in most circumstances to submit a written request to the consumer reporting agency (e.g., HireRight) for a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of any consumer report the Company ordered about you. The consumer reporting agency must provide you with this disclosure within 5 days after its receipt of your request or the report was requested by the Company, whichever date is later.

NEW JERSEY: You have the right to submit a request to the consumer reporting agency (e.g., HireRight) for a copy of any investigative consumer report the Company requested about you. A summary of your rights under the New Jersey Fair Credit Reporting Act is set out below.

NEW YORK: You have the right, upon written request, to be informed of whether or not the Company requested a consumer report or an investigative consumer report about you. Shown above is the address and telephone number for HireRight, the consumer reporting agency used by the Company. You may inspect and receive a copy of any such report by contacting that consumer reporting agency. A copy of Article 23-A of the New York Correction Law is provided below.

WASHINGTON STATE: If the Company requests an investigative consumer report, you have the right, upon written request made within a reasonable period of time after your receipt of this disclosure, to receive from the Company a complete and accurate disclosure of the nature and scope of the investigation requested by the Company. You are entitled to this disclosure within 5 days after the date your request is received or the Company ordered the report, whichever is later. You also have the right to request from the consumer reporting agency a written summary of your rights and remedies under the Washington Fair Credit Reporting Act, which is also set out below.

Applicant Name _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

(CALIFORNIA APPLICANTS ONLY)
A SUMMARY OF YOUR RIGHTS UNDER CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 1786.22

- (a)** An investigative consumer reporting agency shall supply files and information required under Section 1786.10 during normal business hours and on reasonable notice.
- (b)** Files maintained on a consumer shall be made available for the consumer's visual inspection, as follows:
- (1)** In person, if he appears in person and furnishes proper identification. A copy of his file shall also be available to the consumer for a fee not to exceed the actual costs of duplication services provided.
 - (2)** By certified mail, if he makes a written request, with proper identification, for copies to be sent to a specified addressee. Investigative consumer reporting agencies complying with requests for certified mailings under this section shall not be liable for disclosures to third parties caused by mishandling of mail after such mailings leave the investigative consumer reporting agencies.
 - (3)** A summary of all information contained in files on a consumer and required to be provided by Section 1786.10 shall be provided by telephone, if the consumer has made a written request, with proper identification for telephone disclosure, and the toll charge, if any, for the telephone call is prepaid by or charged directly to the consumer.
- (c)** The term "proper identification" as used in subdivision (b) shall mean that information generally deemed sufficient to identify a person. Such information includes documents such as a valid driver's license, social security account number, military identification card, and credit cards. Only if the consumer is unable to reasonably identify himself with the information described above, may an investigative consumer reporting agency require additional information concerning the consumer's employment and personal or family history in order to verify his identity.
- (d)** The investigative consumer reporting agency shall provide trained personnel to explain to the consumer any information furnished him pursuant to Section 1786.10.
- (e)** The investigative consumer reporting agency shall provide a written explanation of any coded information contained in files maintained on a consumer. This written explanation shall be distributed whenever a file is provided to a consumer for visual inspection as required under Section 1786.22.
- (f)** The consumer shall be permitted to be accompanied by one other person of his choosing, who shall furnish reasonable identification. An investigative consumer reporting agency may require the consumer to furnish a written statement granting permission to the consumer reporting agency to discuss the consumer's file in such person's presence.

(NEW JERSEY APPLICANTS ONLY)
A Summary of Your Rights
Under New Jersey's Fair Credit Reporting Act

Under the New Jersey Fair Credit Reporting Act (NJFCRA or the "Act"), an employer, before taking adverse employment action, is required to provide the applicant or employee with a summary of their rights under the Act with respect to consumer reports or investigative consumer reports obtained for employment purposes from a consumer reporting agency (CRA). This Summary is intended to serve that purpose.

You can find the complete text of the NJCRA, N.J. Stat. §§56:11-29 – 56:11041, at the New Jersey State Legislature's web site (<http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>). You may have additional rights under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681-1681u, which is available on the Internet at the Federal Trade Commission's website (<http://www.ftc.gov>).

- **You must consent to the procurement for employment purposes of a report about you.** Before an employer can obtain a report about you from a CRA, the employer must provide you with notice that it will request the report and obtain your consent to that request. A CRA may not give out information about you to your employer, or prospective employer, without your written consent.
- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you for employment purposes.** An employer who uses information from a consumer or investigative consumer report to take action against you – such as denying an application for employment or terminating employment – must tell you that its decision is based in whole or in part on the report. The employer also must provide you with a description of your rights under the NJCRA and a reasonable opportunity to dispute with the CRA any information on which the employer relied.
- **You can find out what is in your file.** At your request, a CRA must give you the information in your file and a list of everyone who has recently requested your file. These disclosures may be made in person, over the telephone or by any other reasonable method available to the CRA.
- **You can dispute inaccurate information with the CRA.** If you tell a CRA that your file contains inaccurate information, the CRA must reinvestigate the disputed items, free of charge, within 30 days, unless the CRA determines that the dispute is frivolous or irrelevant. The CRA must give you a written report of the investigation. If the CRA's investigation does not resolve the dispute, you may add a brief statement to your file. If an item is deleted or a dispute statement is filed, you may ask that anyone who has recently received your report be notified of the change.
- **Inaccurate information must be corrected or deleted.** A CRA must remove or correct inaccurate or unverified information from its files within 30 days after you dispute it. If your dispute results in any change to your report, the CRA cannot reinsert into your file a disputed item unless the information source verifies its accuracy and completeness. In addition, the CRA must give you a written notice telling you it has reinserted the item. The notice must include the business name and address.
- **You may seek damages from violators.** If a CRA, a user or (in some cases) a provider of CRA data violates the NJFCRA, you may sue them in state court.

(NEW YORK APPLICANTS ONLY)
NEW YORK CORRECTION LAW
ARTICLE 23-A

**LICENSURE AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS PREVIOUSLY
CONVICTED OF ONE OR MORE CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

Section 750. Definitions.

751. Applicability.

752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited.

753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.

754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment.

755. Enforcement.

§750. Definitions. For the purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) "Public agency" means the state or any local subdivision thereof, or any state or local department, agency, board or commission.

(2) "Private employer" means any person, company, corporation, labor organization or association which employs ten or more persons.

(3) "Direct relationship" means that the nature of criminal conduct for which the person was convicted has a direct bearing on his fitness or ability to perform one or more of the duties or responsibilities necessarily related to the license, opportunity, or job in question.

(4) "License" means any certificate, license, permit or grant of permission required by the laws of this state, its political subdivisions or instrumentalities as a condition for the lawful practice of any occupation, employment, trade, vocation, business, or profession. Provided, however, that "license" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include any license or permit to own, possess, carry, or fire any explosive, pistol, handgun, rifle, shotgun, or other firearm.

(5) "Employment" means any occupation, vocation or employment, or any form of vocational or educational training. Provided, however, that "employment" shall not, for the purposes of this article, include membership in any law enforcement agency.

§751. Applicability. The provisions of this article shall apply to any application by any person for a license or employment at any public or private employer, who has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction, and to any license or employment held by any person whose conviction of one or more criminal offenses in this state or in any other jurisdiction preceded such employment or granting of a license, except where a mandatory forfeiture, disability or bar to employment is imposed by law, and has not been removed by an executive pardon, certificate of relief from disabilities or certificate of good conduct. Nothing in this article shall be construed to affect any right an employer may have with respect to an intentional misrepresentation in connection with an application for employment made by a prospective employee or previously made by a current employee.

§752. Unfair discrimination against persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses prohibited. No application for any license or employment, and no employment or license held by an individual, to which the provisions of this article are applicable, shall be denied or acted upon adversely by reason of the individual's having been previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses, or by reason of a finding of lack of "good moral character" when such finding is based upon the fact that the individual has previously been convicted of one or more criminal offenses, unless:

(1) There is a direct relationship between one or more of the previous criminal offenses and the specific license or employment sought or held by the individual; or

(2) the issuance or continuation of the license or the granting or continuation of the employment would involve an unreasonable risk to property or to the safety or welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

§753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.

1. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall consider the following factors:

(a) The public policy of this state, as expressed in this act, to encourage the licensure and employment of persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses.

(b) The specific duties and responsibilities necessarily related to the license or employment sought or held by the person.

(c) The bearing, if any, the criminal offense or offenses for which the person was previously convicted will have on his fitness or ability to perform one or more such duties or responsibilities.

(d) The time which has elapsed since the occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(e) The age of the person at the time of occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.

(f) The seriousness of the offense or offenses.

(g) Any information produced by the person, or produced on his behalf, in regard to his rehabilitation and good conduct.

(h) The legitimate interest of the public agency or private employer in protecting property, and the safety and welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

2. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall also give consideration to a certificate of relief from disabilities or a certificate of good conduct issued to the applicant, which certificate shall create a presumption of rehabilitation in regard to the offense or offenses specified therein.

§754. Written statement upon denial of license or employment. At the request of any person previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses who has been denied a license or employment, a public agency or private employer shall provide, within thirty days of a request, a written statement setting forth the reasons for such denial.

§755. Enforcement.

1. In relation to actions by public agencies, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by a proceeding brought pursuant to article seventy-eight of the civil practice law and rules.

2. In relation to actions by private employers, the provisions of this article shall be enforceable by the division of human rights pursuant to the powers and procedures set forth in article fifteen of the executive law, and, concurrently, by the New York city commission on human rights.

(WASHINGTON APPLICANTS ONLY)
A Summary of Your Rights
Under Washington’s Fair Credit Reporting Act

Under the Washington state Fair Credit Reporting Act (WFCRA or the “Act”), an employer, before taking adverse employment action, is required to provide the applicant or employee with a summary of their rights under the Act with respect to consumer reports or investigative consumer reports obtained for employment purposes from a consumer reporting agency (CRA). This Summary is intended to serve that purpose.

You can find the complete text of the WFCRA, Wash. Rev. Code §§19.182.005—19.182.902, at the Washington State Legislature’s web site (<http://www.leg.wa.gov>). You may have additional rights under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681-1681u, which is available on the Internet at the Federal Trade Commission’s website (<http://www.ftc.gov>).

- **You must consent to the procurement for employment purposes of a report about you.** Before an employer can obtain a report about you from a CRA, the employer must provide you with notice that it will request the report and obtain your consent to that request. A CRA may not give out information about you to your employer, or prospective employer, without your written consent.
- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you for employment purposes.** An employer who uses information from a consumer or investigative consumer report to take action against you – such as denying an application for employment or terminating employment – must tell you that its decision is based in whole or in part on the report and give you the name, address and phone number of the CRA that provided the report. The employer also must provide you with a description of your rights under the WFCRA and a reasonable opportunity to dispute with the CRA any information on which the employer relied.
- **You can find out what is in your file.** At your request, a CRA must give you the information in your file (except that medical information may be withheld), and a list of everyone who has recently requested your file. These disclosures may be made in person, over the telephone or by any other reasonable method available to the CRA. At your request, any medical information contained in your file will be disclosed to the healthcare provider of your choice.
- **You can dispute inaccurate information with the CRA.** If you tell a CRA that your file contains inaccurate information, the CRA must reinvestigate the disputed items, free of charge, within 30 business days, unless the CRA determines that the dispute is frivolous or irrelevant. The CRA must give you a written report of the investigation. If the CRA’s investigation does not resolve the dispute, you may add a brief statement to your file. If an item is deleted or a dispute statement is filed, you may ask that anyone who has recently received your report be notified of the change.
- **Inaccurate information must be corrected or deleted.** A CRA must remove or correct inaccurate or unverified information from its files within 30 business days after you dispute it. If your dispute results in any change to your report, the CRA cannot reinsert into your file a disputed item unless the information source verifies its accuracy and completeness. In addition, the CRA must give you a written notice telling you it has reinserted the item. The notice must include the business name and address.
- **You may seek damages from violators.** If a CRA, a user or (in some cases) a provider of CRA data violates the WFCRA, you may sue them in state court.