

**FELONY RECORDS SEARCH
PROCEDURES**

Pursuant to 70 O.S. §5-142, the Commerce School District will obtain the results of a national felony record search of the name and fingerprints of every prospective school district employee. During the first interview with each employment applicant, the applicant will be advised that:

1. The school district requires a national felony record search of every prospective employee's name and fingerprints as a condition of employment;
2. To enable the school district to request the search and obtain the results, the applicant must complete and sign an Authorization and Release form provided by the school district;
3. The school district will request a felony record search only if the superintendent of schools recommends employment of the applicant;
4. If the superintendent of schools recommends employment of the applicant, the applicant must pay the search fee, which will not exceed \$50;
5. The school district will reimburse the applicant for the search fee unless the search discloses a prior felony offense conviction;
6. If the superintendent of schools recommends employment of the applicant, the applicant must permit the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation to fingerprint the applicant; and
7. The applicant, if placed on duty prior to receipt of the felony search results, will be classified as a temporary employee until the school district is notified that the search is clear of any felony record.

If the felony records search reveals a prior felony offense conviction or if the applicant provides a false response to one or more of the questions on the Authorization and Release, the applicant will be denied employment and, if placed on duty prior to receipt of the search results, will be deemed to have resigned from employment with the school district, effective upon acceptance by the board of education. The board of education may accept any employee's resignation at any time within thirty (30) days after the date the school district is notified of either the unsatisfactory search results or learns of the applicant's false response, whichever is later. Under these circumstances, the employee waives any due process procedures that might otherwise be available under federal and state law and school district policies and procedures.

The school district will also request a national felony record search of the name and fingerprints of any current school district employee if the board of education recommends a search of that employee's felony record.