FINGERPRINT CLEARANCE INFORMATION

The California Education Code §44340 & 44341 require that all individuals who seek to obtain California credentials, certificates, permits, and waivers issued by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing receive fingerprint clearance from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the Commission. Please Note:

- Individuals who have received fingerprint clearance through other agencies, employers, other states, or government agencies are not exempt from this process.

- Fingerprint history is not reviewed by the Commission unless an application and the appropriate fees are received from the applicant.

CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

California residents must use the Live Scan fingerprint process when applying for a document and/or permit issued by the Commission. First time applicants must submit verification that fingerprints were completed by providing a copy of the form 41-LS with their Commission hard copy application as proof of service. If you have completed an application online, please retain a copy in case the Commission requests additional information from you. Do not email your form to the Commission. Your fingerprint results will be forwarded electronically to the Commission by DOJ. A current listing of sites offering Live Scan electronic fingerprint services is available on the California Attorney General website.

Before You Fingerprint – Avoiding Errors

Fingerprint Errors can be caused by the applicant or the fingerprint operator and will delay the issuance of a credential or document that you seek from the Commission. To help reduce errors, the Commission recommends the following:

- Always use your full legal name
- Your name on your form must match your name on your application
- Ensure your SSN and other personal information is correct on your form before submission
- Type your form or print legibly
- Complete the required fields on your form (see instructions)

Resubmission

- If you are required to resubmit, please follow any directions provided by the Commission and input the following information on your 41-LS form as directed:
  - Your SSN or OCA
  - Your original ATI number
  - Level of Service (DOJ/FBI)

- Again, ensure that the Live Scan technician has entered your information into the system correctly.
Invalidated Fingerprints
The Commission would invalidate fingerprint results if any information received is incorrect (i.e., transposed numbers in your SSN; name misspelled, missing data, etc.).

Fingerprint results are also invalidated if the Commission does not receive an application and fees within 18 months of being fingerprinted and/or when an individual’s credential, certificate, permit, waiver, or any document issued by the Commission has expired for eighteen (18) months or longer. If fingerprint results are invalidated, the applicant must be re-fingerprinted and pay fees before a new document is issued by the Commission. Please see Coded Correspondence 12-10 for additional information.

Live Scan Form Sample 41-LS:
Live Scan form instructions detail how to complete form 41-LS, some of which is noted below. The 41-LS now includes the Privacy Notice, Privacy Act Statement, and Applicant’s Privacy Rights from the Department of Justice (BCIA 8016) which requires a signature indicating you have received and read the included notices.

Information located in the sections below are prefilled on Form 41-LS. If it does not prepopulate when downloaded, please ensure that the information provided below is included prior to submission. This information must appear exactly as shown to complete the processing of your Live Scan.

Sample 41-LS

Non-Resident (Out-of-State/Country)
California Penal Code Section 11102.1 precludes the DOJ from accepting applicant fingerprints unless the impressions were rolled by a certified fingerprint roller or by an individual who is specifically exempt from the certification requirement. Individuals residing outside of California applying for employment or certification in California who cannot be fingerprinted in California must have their fingerprints rolled at a law enforcement agency in their state or country of residence. If reprints are required, they must be taken by a different individual than the one who originally took the prints. Educators residing outside California may order fingerprint cards from the Commission by submitting contact information through the CTC Fingerprint Card Request portal.
Fingerprint cards cannot be folded or have anything stapled or glued to them. The Commission cannot accept red and white or black and white fingerprint identification cards, photocopies of fingerprint cards, or fingerprints rolled in ink in any color other than black. Submission of incomplete or unacceptable fingerprint cards will result in a delay in processing your application for a credential, permit, or certificate. Fingerprint cards may not be submitted separately from an application and processing fee for a credential, permit or certificate. When submitting your application, attach the fingerprint cards which will be forwarded to the DOJ for processing. When the Commission receives responses from both DOJ and FBI, the processing of your application will resume. Fingerprint card processing may take 6 – 8 weeks.

On your fingerprint cards, please complete the areas that are marked with an “X” on the sample below. Incomplete fingerprint cards will be rejected and destroyed causing a delay in the processing. New cards will be required.

Sample: FINGERPRINT Hard Card (FD-258)

1. Prints must be rolled from nail to nail and the ridges should be sharp and distinct.

2. Cards must carry the complete physical description of the applicant, including color of eyes and hair, height, weight, date of birth, and signature in ink. Abbreviations for hair and eye color may be used; please use BLK (black), BLND (blonde), BL (blue), BRN (brown), GRN (green), GRY (gray), and HZL (hazel). Since the cards cannot be properly indexed by the Department of Justice or the FBI without this information, incomplete cards will be returned to the applicant. Your SSN is required for the Commission to match your fingerprint transaction with your Educator Profile. If you have an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) instead of a SSN, place your ITIN in the Your No. OCA field. See above example.

3. If you are missing a digit or have a skin irritation or deformity of the hands and/or fingers which prevents the taking of clear fingerprints, submit a statement explaining the situation from the person taking the prints in the case of missing digits or a deformity) or from a doctor (in the case of a skin irritation). Attach the statement to your fingerprint cards at the time you submit them. You may be required to submit several fingerprint cards until the Department of Justice or FBI is able to piece together a classifiable set of prints.
Please review this helpful information to aid in the successful processing of hard copy fingerprint submissions, which may prevent delays or rejections. Hard copy fingerprint submissions must meet specific criteria for processing by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

- Ensure all information is typed or legibly printed using blue or black ink.
- Enter data within the boundaries of the designated field or block. Complete all required fields. (If a required field is left blank, the fingerprint card may be immediately rejected without further processing.)
- The required fields for hard copy fingerprint cards are listed
- Do not use highlighters on fingerprint cards.
- Do not enter data or labels within ‘Leave Blank’ areas.
- Ensure notations are made for any missing fingerprint impression (i.e., amputation).
- Ensure no stray marks are within the fingerprint impression blocks.

FBI INFORMATION

TO OBTAIN CLASSIFIABLE FINGERPRINTS:
1. USE BLACK PRINTER’S INK.
2. DISTRIBUTE INK EVENLY ON INKING SLAB.
3. WASH AND DRY FINGERS THOROUGHLY.
4. ROLL FINGERS FROM NAIL TO NAIL AND AVOID ALLOWING FINGERS TO SLIP.
5. BE SURE IMPRESSIONS ARE RECORDED IN CORRECT ORDER.
6. NOTATE IN THE APPROPRIATE FINGER BLOCKS IF APPLICANT IS MISSING ONE OR MORE FINGERS FOR ANY REASON. IF NOT MISSING, ALL TEN IMPRESSIONS MUST BE PROVIDED WITH SCARS AND DEFORMITIES NOTATED.

THIS CARD FOR USE BY:
1. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN FINGERPRINTING APPLICANTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT POSITIONS. *
2. OFFICIALS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR PURPOSES OF EMPLOYMENT, LICENSING, AND PERMITS, AS AUTHORIZED BY STATE STATUTES AND APPROVED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES. LOCAL AND COUNTY ORDINANCES, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY BASED ON APPLICABLE STATE STATUTES DO NOT SATISFY THIS REQUIREMENT. *
3. U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER ENTITIES REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW. **
4. OFFICIALS OF FEDERALLY CHARTERED OR INSURED BANKING INSTITUTIONS TO PROMOTE OR MAINTAIN THE SECURITY OF THOSE INSTITUTIONS.

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. PRINTS MUST GENERALLY BE CHECKED THROUGH THE APPROPRIATE STATE IDENTIFICATION BUREAU, AND ONLY THOSE FINGERPRINTS FOR WHICH NO DISQUALIFYING RECORD HAS BEEN FOUND LOCALLY SHOULD BE SUBMITTED FOR FBI SEARCH.
2. IDENTITY OF PRIVATE CONTRACTORS SHOULD BE SHOWN IN SPACE “EMPLOYER AND ADDRESS”. THE CONTRIBUTOR IS THE NAME OF THE AGENCY SUBMITTING THE FINGERPRINT CARD TO THE FBI.
3. FBI NUMBER, IF KNOWN, SHOULD ALWAYS BE FURNISHED IN THE APPROPRIATE SPACE. MISCELLANEOUS NO. - RECORD: OTHER ARMED FORCES NO. PASSPORT NO. [FP], ALIEN REGISTRATION NO. (AR), PORT SECURITY CARD NO. (PS), SELECTIVE SERVICE NO. (SS) VETERANS’ ADMINISTRATION CLAIM NO. (VA).