

Fingerprinting: It's the law

In 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law requiring fingerprint-based criminal background reviews for certain school employees. The legislation was enacted to ensure the safety of all children, teachers and staff in Texas public schools.

Who is required to submit fingerprints for a criminal background check?

- All certified educators
- All substitute teachers and aides, certified or not
- Non-certified employees hired on or after January 1, 2008
- Charter school teachers and other professionals (serving in a position that would require certification if they were employed in a traditional school district)
- Contract employees hired after January 1, 2008 who have direct contact with students

Who is not required to submit fingerprints but must undergo a name-based background check?

- Non-certified employees hired before January 1, 2008
- Contract employees hired before January 1, 2008 who have direct contact with students
- Student teachers
- Volunteers (excludes parents and guardians, those accompanied on campus by a district employee, or individuals volunteering for a single event)

When must employees be fingerprinted?

- All employees, both certified and non-certified, as well as substitute teachers, must be fingerprinted before their first day of employment

ECISD Fingerprint Process:

- Your new hire paperwork will be given to your HR representative
- Your name/information will be uploaded to the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) to see if you have ever been fingerprinted thru SBEC
- If you have, you will not need to be fingerprinted again
- If you have not, your HR representative will determine if your information will need to be uploaded as a certified or non-certified employee and will contact you via phone or e-mail with instructions to complete the fingerprinting requirement.
- You will receive instructions with Location Code and a FAST Pass form will be included to complete the fingerprint requirement
- You may make the appointment via internet or phone with the company completing the fingerprints.
- Fingerprinting fee ranges from \$10.00 to \$46.71 dependent on method of payment and is paid by the applicant

For TEA Fingerprint questions please click the link
below:http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=5535&menu_id=840&menu_id2=794