Background Check Information

As per the Palomar College Nursing Education Department agreement with the San Diego Nursing & Allied Health Service-Education Consortium, students and faculty must complete a background check and drug screen prior to participating in clinical experiences at health care facilities. The results of this background check and drug screen will be investigated and reviewed by each clinical agency prior to any clinical rotation throughout the program.

At a minimum, background checks will include the following:

- Seven years residence/background history
- Address verification
- Two names (current legal and one other name)
- Three counties
- Sex offender database search
- OIG/GSA-Medicare/Medicaid Excluded List
- Social Security Number verification
- Search through applicable professional certification or licensing agency for infractions, if student currently holds a professional license or certification (e.g., respiratory therapist, CNA)
- 10-Panel Drug Screening

Each semester the clinical agencies being used will make their own determination as to whether or not a student is allowed to enter their facility for clinical. Due to the strict requirements of each site, students with any of the following situations (but not limited to) may not be accepted by the clinical site and therefore, will not be allowed to begin and/or continue in the Nursing Program.

- Felony conviction of any kind
- Class B & Class A misdemeanor theft
- Fraud
- Drug & alcohol related offenses
- Convictions of abuse, battery, violence, hate crime, theft & dishonesty
- On probation for any reason—even reckless driving
- History of repeated offenses
- Active warrant for arrest
- Dilute urine drug screen
- DUI

The above list is not comprehensive of the items that might come up during the background check process.

Anything that results in a flag on the background check can and will be examined by the clinical agencies. These decisions are independent of the rules of admission to Palomar College. The faculty in the Palomar Nursing program is not in control of the clinical agency’s decision.

If at any time during the program a clinical agency refuses a clinical placement, the student will not be allowed to continue in the program. Due to the program’s agreement with the San Diego Consortium, a different clinical site will not be provided for the student.