

How can the TECRC affect my progress in a teacher education program?

Decisions of the TECRC may include one or more of the following:

- Deny or defer admission into the program
- Request for more information/hold
- Request for a reflection paper
- Require no field work for specific period of time
- Send a letter of warning



- When does the TECRC meet? Typically the committee meets every two weeks during the academic semesters. There is one meeting over winter break, and there are at least two meetings during summer break.

- Are TECRC meetings open? Due to the confidential nature of the decisions rendered by the Teacher Education Candidate Review Committee, the meetings are not open to non-members, and minutes of the meetings are not publically posted. Students are informed of TECRC decisions by email and/or hardcopy mail.

- I have a TECRC question – who should I contact?
Contact the Associate Dean of your school.

June 2014

FAQ

TECRC: Frequently Asked Questions

- What kind of issues must I disclose to my Associate Dean?
Any violation of the student code, the academic integrity policy, local, state or federal law must be disclosed. In addition some cases where charges have been brought must be disclosed. See next bullet.
- If my case is pending, do I still have to disclose?
Any student charged with **driving while intoxicated (DWI), drug possession, a crime against a child, or physical assault** has to disclose the charge within 5 business days.
- Do drinking tickets downtown (or in my hometown) need to be disclosed?
No matter the location, violations of the law have to be disclosed; this includes drinking tickets. Some charges have to be disclosed as well.
- If I forgot a violation in my past, does that matter?
Yes. TECRC will read that as a “failure to disclose” which will in turn increase the risk that you will be denied entry into a program, or delayed in the program.
- Who serves on the TECRC?
Associate Deans from the three schools (Arts and Sciences, Education and Professional Studies)
Faculty representatives from the three schools
A representative from Student Conduct Office
A representative from University Police Dept.
A representative from AGT
A representative from Admissions Office



Information for Teacher Education Candidates:

About the Teacher Education Candidate Review Committee (TECRC)

What students in teacher education programs need to know about the review of records of behavior and academic integrity.

For more information, students should contact the Associate Dean:

Students in the School of Education should call 607-753-5431

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Students in the School of Arts and Sciences should call 607-753-4314

<>

Students in the School of Professional Studies should call 607-753-2702

TECRC: Self Disclosure

What Must I Do?

Students in teacher-education programs are **required to self-disclose** a wide variety of behaviors prior to their review in the semester before student teaching (checkpoint #5).

Typically students reveal **violations** of the student code such as **alcohol violations, fake ID offenses, residence hall policy violations, city tickets** etc. In addition students must report, within 5 business days, if they have been **charged** with any of the following: **driving while intoxicated (DWI), drug possession, a crime against a child, or physical assault**.

Failure to disclose within 5 business days of the violation (or charge, see above) delays and complicates evaluation by the TECRC. In its review the TECRC may take the failure to disclose as a compounding factor, raising concerns about the integrity of the teacher candidate. It is always in the student's best interest to disclose fully and quickly.

ACD – in some courts, the presiding judge may choose to issue an adjournment in contemplation of dismissal (ACD or ACOD). This indicates that there substantial reasons to hold the student in violation, but the student will be given a probationary period of several months to show good conduct. At the end, if all is well, the charge is dismissed. Any student who has an ACD case must disclose that holding to his/her associate dean.

TECRC: Automatic Checkpoints

There are two critical stages in the progress of a student in a teacher-education program. The first is admission into the program itself. The second is approval for student teaching. At each of these stages (known as checkpoints) the TECRC reviews students. (In between these stages students are obliged to self-disclose; see earlier section).

- **First Review.** Each student is asked to complete an **Application to Teacher Education** at the time designated by the program and according to the program's specific admissions criteria. (For graduate students, admission to the college and application to the program are typically simultaneous). The application to teacher education includes a set of questions related to good moral character. Any application that contains a "yes" answer to one or more of the questions is forwarded to the TECRC.
- **Second Review** Near the end of the student's program, when the student enters the semester prior to student teaching, program coordinators facilitate the completion of an "application to student teaching" by potential candidates. They forward that application to the Field Experience and School Partnerships Office. From that office the list of next semester's student teachers is forwarded to several offices on campus and the TECRC. All potential student teachers are reviewed at this point (also known as Checkpoint 5).

About the TECRC

Teacher candidates have a special responsibility to be positive role models in their classes, in their placements, and in the community generally. The teacher certification process involves assessing "professional dispositions" – in that context SUNY Cortland has identified important dispositions for all teacher education candidates to emulate. Each department may set its own individual disposition requirements in addition to those identified by the college.

The Teacher Education Council (TEC) has charged a subcommittee, the Teacher Education Candidate Review Committee (TECRC), with reviewing applications to the teacher education program; developing a rubric for evaluation; continually assessing candidate qualifications at various check points, and notifying students of the committee's decision.

The TECRC reviews information about student behavior that involves any violation of codes, regulations, and laws (e.g., alcohol violations, academic dishonesty, violent behavior). Regarding more serious behavioral problems the student must inform the TECRC of any charges brought against him/her. This requirement applies to this specific list of charges: driving while intoxicated (DWI), drug possession, a crime against a child, or physical assault.

Which School Is Mine?

Teacher education programs are in all three schools:

- **Arts and Sciences >>>** All adolescent education programs: English, Math, Social Studies, Foreign Languages, TESOL, and Sciences (Biology, Earth Science, Physics and Chemistry)
- **Education >>>** Childhood, Early Childhood, Inclusive Special Education, Literacy, Educational Leadership
- **Professional Studies >>>** Health Education, Physical Education, Speech and Language Disabilities