

I. PURPOSE

II. For the health and safety of all Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish’s students, Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish requires criminal background checks for all school employees, substitutes, and volunteers who interact with students and/or who could potentially be left unsupervised with a student. This policy specifically addresses the requirement for background checks for all board members with Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish.

III. POLICY

A. Anyone on Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish’s grounds or at one of its events with significant access to students, or unsupervised time spent with students, is required to submit to a criminal background check prior to engaging with students.

1. For the purpose of this policy, this includes school board members.

2. Within 30 days of election and prior to taking seat, all school board members shall complete a criminal background check.

a. No person who has been convicted of or has pled nolo contendere to a crime listed in LA. R.S. 15:587.1(C) shall be elected to the school board.

3. The governance coordinator at homecourt will work with the newly elected board member and staff at the school to secure the proper paperwork for the background check.

B. Background Checks Procedures:

1. At the beginning of the school year, all parents will be notified that Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish requires background checks on all school personnel including board members, volunteers, emergency replacements, and substitutes.

2. Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish will request criminal background checks on all board members, including fingerprints.

3. Unless a new board member has completed a background check through the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education within 12 months of the date of election, he/she must complete a background check through Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish.

Background Checks

4. The cost of the background check may be the responsibility of the corresponding board member.
5. If a person is dismissed from the board based on information in a background check, he/she will receive notice of the reason, and will have the opportunity to respond.

C. Supervision Policy:

1. Until a background check clears, the responsibility of supervision of lies with the Lead School Administrator or designee.

Legal References:

[LA. R.S. 17:15](#) (*Criminal History Review*)

[LA. R.S. 15:587.1](#) (*Provision of information to protect*)