

# Franklin West Supervisory Union

## Volunteer Criminal Background Checks Policy

Warned: November 17, 2010  
Adopted: March 23, 2011  
Revised: Sept 24, 2015

### Policy

In order to protect our students from potential abuse or exploitation, Franklin West Supervisory Union will conduct a Vermont criminal record check through the Vermont Criminal Information Center (VCIC), to screen all individuals interested in volunteering in our schools.

No individual subject to a criminal record check shall be eligible to serve (or continue to serve) as a volunteer if they have been convicted of one or more of the following crimes (taken from 16 V.S.A. §§ 252 and 1698). The decision of the Superintendent in these matters shall be final:

- Sex offender crimes listed in [13 V.S.A. § 5401\(10\)](#) (sex offender definition for registration purposes):
- Crimes involving a victim listed in [13 V.S.A. § 5301\(7\)](#)
- Contributing to juvenile delinquency under [13 V.S.A. § 1301](#)
- Cruelty to children under [13 V.S.A. § 1304](#)
- Cruelty by person having custody under [13 V.S.A. § 1305](#)
- Prohibited acts under [13 V.S.A. §§ 2632](#) and [2635](#)
- Displaying obscene materials to minors under [13 V.S.A. § 2804b](#)
- Sexual exploitation of children under [13 V.S.A. chapter 64](#)
- Drug sales, including selling or dispensing under 18 V.S.A. §§ [4230\(b\)](#), [4231\(b\)](#), [4232\(b\)](#), [4233\(b\)](#), [4234\(b\)](#), [4234a](#), [4234b](#), [4235\(c\)](#), [4235a\(b\)](#), and [4237](#)
- Sexual activity by a caregiver, under [33 V.S.A. § 6902\(D\)](#)
- Crimes that are cause for licensing actions listed in [16 V.S.A. § 1698\(1\)\(B\)-\(D\)](#)

The list of disqualifying crimes is not meant to be exhaustive. For convictions not listed, eligibility to volunteer shall be considered on a case-by-case basis. The totality of the crimes and when the conviction occurred shall also be considered when determining eligibility to volunteer. Crimes committed within the past three years will automatically disqualify the individual from volunteering in any capacity.

Volunteers convicted of a DUI may not at any time drive students for any school event under any circumstances.

In addition to the above disqualifications, it is the discretion of the Superintendent/ Principal/ Director/Designee to accept or not accept specific individuals as volunteers, and all decisions related to the continuation of a volunteer's service. Appeals may be made directly to the FWSU Board Personnel Committee whose decision shall be final.