



ADVOCACY GUIDE:

Navigating Criminal Records in the Certified Relative Caregiver Process

DISCLAIMER: This document contains general information about the law. It is not legal advice. It is offered as a resource to help you generally.

NOTE: When we refer to The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), we are referring to all of its contracting agencies as well.

The following guide provides information and recommendations to address criminal history in the path to becoming a certified relative caregiver. Some of these actions can be taken by you and/or done on your behalf by an attorney or advocate.

This guide will include: an overview of criminal convictions, tips and checklists to prepare supportive materials, frequently asked questions, and a visual guide to the criminal records review process. Reviewing this document will help set you up for success when you meet with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

1: Understand the Starting Point: When a Criminal Record ≠ Automatic Disqualification

A criminal record does not necessarily rule you out from the relative caregiver certification process. Certain criminal convictions disqualify an individual from certified relative caregiver status. However, many convictions are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Review the distinctions below to determine if you and your home are eligible for relative caregiver certification, even if you or someone in your home has a criminal history.

- ✓ **The key question agencies must answer is:**
“Does this caregiver or other adult in the home have a criminal conviction history that indicates a current or future safety risk to the child?”
- ✗ **Not:**
“Have you ever been arrested or convicted?”

Your job is to help DCFS build evidence that the answer is no, and that relative caregiver certification approval is in the child's best interest, providing stability and encouraging family continuity.

DCFS distinguishes criminal records by two major categories:

- 1. Automatically disqualifying convictions:** **1)** caregivers with felony convictions involving child abuse or neglect, spousal abuse, crimes against children, or certain crimes involving violence and **2)** caregivers with felony convictions in the past 5 years for physical assault and battery, as well as drug-related convictions. Refer to the chart below and the Appendix at the end of this guide.
- 2. All other convictions:** Most records are in this category, including: **1)** any conviction for an adult in the home who isn't the caregiver and **2)** any conviction for the potential certified relative caregiver that is not subject to an automatic bar.

Which Crimes Prevent Relative Caregiver Certification?

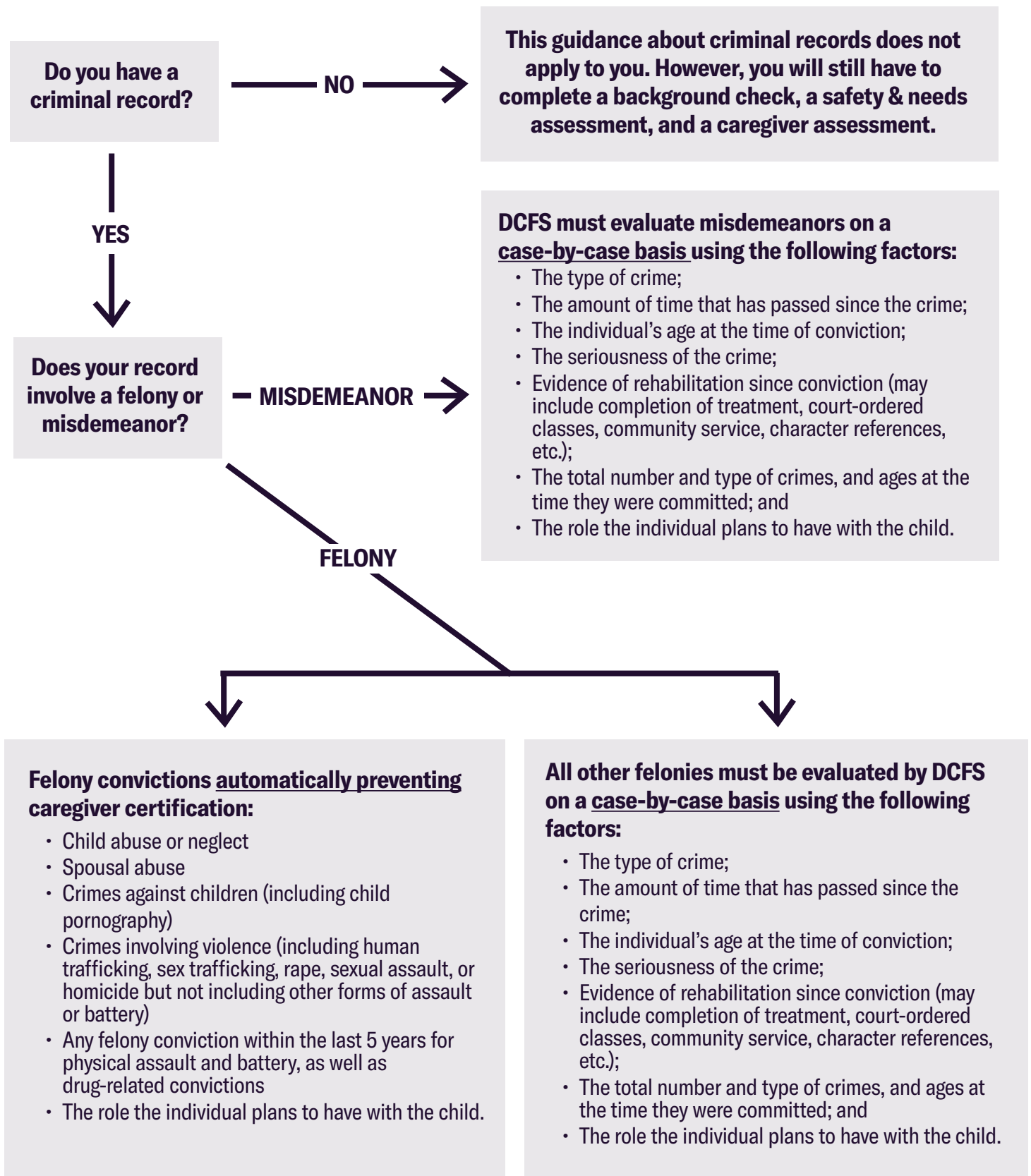
NOTE: The following list of crimes that prevent relative caregiver certification is only for convictions. Time frames for convictions should start on the date the crime was committed, NOT the date of conviction or prison release.

The Department may consider an arrest record if charges are still pending. For example, if you were recently arrested and your court case is still pending, they may consider that. The Department should not use expunged crimes against you. Additionally, an arrest with a dismissal will result in a continued presumption of innocence.

	Certified Relative Caregiver	Other Adult Household Member
Prohibited Convictions	LIFETIME PROHIBITION: A felony conviction for child abuse or neglect, for spousal abuse, for a crime against children (including child pornography), or for a crime involving violence (including human trafficking, sex trafficking, rape, sexual assault, or homicide but not including other forms of assault or battery). CONVICTION WITHIN LAST 5 YEARS: A felony conviction for physical assault and battery, as well as drug-related convictions.	N/A
Non-Prohibited Convictions	Thoroughly investigate and evaluate the criminal history of the adult and, in doing so, include an assessment of the adult's character and, <u>in the case of the prospective certified relative caregiver, the impact that the criminal history has on the prospective certified relative caregiver's ability to parent the child.</u> The investigation MUST consider: the type of crime, the number of crimes, the nature of the conviction, the age of the person at the time of the crime, the length of time that has elapsed since the last conviction, the relationship of the crime to the ability to care for children, the role that the adult will have with the child, and any evidence of rehabilitation.	Thoroughly investigate and evaluate the criminal history of the adult and, in doing so, include an assessment of the adult's character. The investigation MUST consider: the type of crime, the number of crimes, the nature of the conviction, the age of the person at the time of the crime, the length of time that has elapsed since the last conviction, the relationship of the crime to the ability to care for children, the role that the adult will have with the child, and any evidence of rehabilitation.

For individuals with convictions that WILL be considered on a case-by-case basis, the remainder of this guide will help you create a strong case for placement and/or certification.

CERTIFIED RELATIVE CAREGIVER: ELIGIBILITY



OTHER ADULTS IN THE HOME: ELIGIBILITY

Do they have a criminal record?

NO



This guidance about criminal records does not apply to them. However, they will still have to complete a background check, a safety & needs assessment, and a caregiver assessment.

YES
↓

DCFS must evaluate both misdemeanors and felonies on a case-by-case basis using the following factors:

- The type of crime;
- The amount of time that has passed since the crime;
- The individual's age at the time of conviction;
- The seriousness of the crime;
- Evidence of rehabilitation since conviction (may include completion of treatment, court-ordered classes, community service, character references, etc.);
- The total number and type of crimes, and ages at the time they were committed; and
- The role the individual plans to have with the child.

2. Gather and Present a Record of Rehabilitation

It is vital to present the strongest case possible to DCFS about your ability to care for a child. The following examples are documents that can help improve your chances of certification by providing DCFS with specific, tangible evidence about your criminal history, how you've overcome it, and how it should not impact whether a child can be placed in your home. If DCFS needs further information about certain records, they may ask you to sign a Request for Information.

A. Certified Court Documents

It is important to know the details of your case and to have the documents associated with it.

- Show the final disposition of your case.
 - Were your charges dismissed?
 - Did you make a plea to lesser offenses?
 - Did you complete probation?
- If possible, obtain a letter showing successful completion of probation/parole.
- If you've experienced unsuccessful termination of probation, parole, or other court-ordered programs, it may be helpful to describe challenges you faced throughout the process, potentially mitigating concerns about your ability to be a caretaker. It may be helpful to talk through this with a lawyer.

B. Proof of Time Since Conviction

- DCFS cares deeply about distance in time (i.e., the further away you are from the conviction, the less weight it is likely to carry).
- Emphasize that research shows recidivism risk drops sharply with each passing year.

C. Treatment or Counseling Completion

If your offense involved any of the following topics, it may be helpful to provide proof of any treatment or counseling you have completed or are engaged in to demonstrate that you don't pose a risk to the child being placed.

- Substance use
- Battery or assault (domestic, family, or relationship violence/conflict)
- Mental health concerns
- Anger

Evidence of treatment or counseling may include any of the following:

- Program participation and/or completion,
- current participation, and/or
- letters from therapists, counselors, and/or physicians.

D. Letters of Support

Letters of support allow DCFS to get to know you better personally. These letters will help them understand how you support and interact with people in your daily life and that you are an appropriate person to provide a safe home to a child. These are not required, but they may help DCFS better understand your situation.

Examples of people to ask for letters:

- Employers
- Clergy or congregation leaders
- Community leaders
- Neighbors
- School staff
- Parole/probation officers
- The child's Guardian ad Litem or parents (if appropriate)

The letters should answer:

1. How long they have known you (the caregiver or other adult in the household);
2. A clear sentence or two about why they are writing the letter (i.e., the letter writer knows the letter is for DCFS and that you are trying to get relative children placed with you);
3. Why they believe you are safe and responsible (and, if you'll be the caregiver, why they believe you'll be a safe and responsible caregiver);
4. Specific examples of positive interaction with the child or other children they have observed;
5. Their belief that your behaviors have changed since your last conviction; and
6. Their willingness to give further information and contact information.

3. Demonstrate Positive Parenting Capacity

A. Evidence of Involvement with the Child

- Photos from family events or activities with the child
- Text messages showing support
- Notes from the child's school if you've been involved
- Documentation of caregiving history (babysitting, temporary placement, informal support, etc.)
- Informal support may include: involvement with child's extra-curricular activities, transportation, etc.

Examples:

Extra-curricular activities: Derek serves as a volunteer coach for his nephew's little league baseball team. This shows the strong bond he shares with his nephew, as well as his commitment to and presence in his nephew's life.

Transportation: Donna picks up her granddaughter 1-2 times a week from school. She has been doing this for the last year, showing responsibility, care, and consistency.

B. Home Safety Readiness

Part of the Department's safety assessment will include a home inspection. Prior to this inspection, you should confirm the following are available in your home to ensure it's ready:

- Bedroom space (even if temporarily arranged)
- Functional smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Locked storage for medications and/or sharps
- Safe food (nonexpired items, etc.)
- Working utilities that are turned on
- General cleanliness and modest order

The Department must provide reasonable assistance to ensure these needs are met. If you have a barrier to meeting any of these requirements, be prepared to discuss it with DCFS.

➔ **The Message:** "I can bring this child home today."

C. Signs of Stability

Provide evidence of:

- Stable housing
- Reliable transportation
- Consistent routines that would support the safe care of a child
- Childcare and backup plans
- Steady employment (or a verifiable income source) and/or an explanation for any time you were unemployed

➔ **The Takeaway:** Even if these areas aren't perfect, show the plan.

4. Prepare a Strong Personal Statement (“The Rehabilitation Narrative”)

This is critical. The caregiver or other adult in the home with the criminal conviction should be ready to **explain the past without minimizing it** and **show their growth**.

Prepare a brief narrative covering:

Accountability

- Acknowledge the conviction or situation.
- Avoid defensive language.

Example: “At 22, I made a decision that I regret deeply. I take full responsibility and have taken significant steps to move toward a more positive direction in my life.”

Insight

Explain what you learned:

- “I learned how my choices affect others.”
- “I realized I needed to get treatment.”
- “I learned what harmful environments and triggers to avoid.”

Change and Stability

Describe what has changed since the incident:

- Sobriety
- Counseling and/or rehabilitative programs
- Medication or other healthcare needs met
- Healthy relationships
- New employment
- Becoming a parent
- Community involvement
- Obtaining schooling or training to aid your employment capacity

Protective Capacities

Explain how you can keep children safe now:

- “I know my triggers and manage them by...”
- “I stay away from past peers or environments.”
- “I maintain a structured home.”
- “I follow a consistent, healthy routine.”
- “I am a parent to my own children who are doing well.”

Why This Child Needs to Be Placed in Your Home

Tie it back to the child:

- “I am the person who knows this child best.”
- “This child already has a bond with me, and denying this opportunity would cause harm.”
- “This child has identified me as a preferred relative caregiver, highlighting a strong bond between us.”
- “I can provide cultural, familial, and communal continuity that others cannot.”



The Point: This is the heart of the case. It allows you to share your story and demonstrate your character in an honest, open, and powerful way.

5. Address the Offense Directly — Don't Let DCFS Fill in the Gaps

Prepare to answer the following questions about your criminal record. It may be helpful to go over this with another person to practice discussing it in real time.

- What happened?
- How old were you?
- What were the circumstances?
- What has changed since then?
- What specific steps have you taken to prevent anything like that from happening again?
- What protective factors are in place now? See Section 6 for protective factors.

If you have a domestic violence charge, show separation, therapy or counseling, no contact, and/or stable healthy relationships. If you have a history of substance use, show sobriety milestones, support groups, counseling, etc.

 **The Goal:** Demonstrate **low current risk, high protective capacity.**

6. Present Protective Factors Clearly and Repeatedly

Protective factors DCFS likes to see:

- Active participation in the child's life
- Family and community support
- Stable daily structure
- Sobriety (if applicable)
- Health stability (including mental health)
- Consistent caregiving history (even if not directly related to the specific child or children generally)
- Good judgment in stressful situations

How to get started: Create a written list – here are some prompts to consider.

- When have you helped a child navigate a tough time?
- What was a situation where a child depended on you?
- How would you talk a child through a problem or difficulty they are experiencing?
- How will the child being placed with you be part of your daily life?
- What types of support are you prepared to offer this child?

7. Show a Child-Centered Plan

Caregivers should be prepared to discuss a plan for the child regarding the following:

- A safe and healthy home
- Access to healthcare providers
- Therapy or mental-health support (if needed)
- Cultural identity and belonging
- Safety planning
- Visitation support for siblings and/or parents
- Backup childcare plan
- Where the child will go to school and if the school changes, how they can ensure stability

➔ **The Point:** This shows you're **serious** and **ready** to care for the child.

8. Highlight the Importance of Family Connections

Illinois law and federal guidance strongly favor **relative-first placement**. In your communication with DCFS, emphasize how the child would benefit from being placed with family, such as maintaining family ties and reducing the likelihood of trauma.

Highlight the following points:

- Separating children from family causes preventable trauma.
- Illinois' Kinship in Demand (KIND) Act and federal policy (Title IV-E, Fostering Connections Act) require agencies to prioritize relatives.
- A relative with a manageable or old conviction is often safer and more stable than an unknown non-relative home.
- Family continuity supports better long-term outcomes for children.

➔ **The Takeaway:** This moves the conversation from **“Is the caregiver perfect?”** to **“How will the home be safe and appropriate and provide family connections for the child?”**



9. Practical Do's and Don'ts for Your Discussion with DCFS

Do:

- Be honest about your past, but don't guess if you're unsure about something.
- Keep answers simple and non-defensive.
- Speak about the child's needs.
- Bring documentation.
- Show stability.
- Communicate respectfully and arrive to DCFS appointments and court appearances on time.
- Have a list of friends and/or family members who are available to provide support (if any). The wider the web, the better. DCFS will conduct background checks on backup caregivers as well.

Don't:

- Minimize or deny the past.
- Attribute your record to the system or others.
- Argue about the legitimacy of the conviction (if you are receiving clemency or a pardon, you can say that).
- Get emotional in a combative way.
- Bring up unrelated grievances.
- If you are unsure, do not provide an answer. Ask for clarity and/or time if you don't know.

➔ **Reminder:** The goal is to project **maturity, reliability, and safety**.

10. Example Short Script for the Caregiver

For your meeting with DCFS, it can be helpful to practice some of what you're going to say ahead of time. You should be prepared to explain your criminal history and why it won't have a negative impact on your ability to serve as a caregiver. Below is an example of what that could look like. It may also be helpful to practice with another person that you know and trust.

IN PRACTICE: Sample Script

"I made mistakes when I was younger, and I take responsibility for them. Since then, I've worked hard to build a stable, healthy life. I have a steady home, employment, and a supportive community.

This child knows me and trusts me. I can keep them safe, provide for their needs, and maintain their family connections. Placing them with me avoids unnecessary trauma and gives them continuity with the people who love them.

I understand the responsibilities of being a caregiver, and I am prepared to follow all DCFS requirements to ensure the child's safety and well-being. I am also happy to discuss any concerns the Department may have."

Quick Checklist to Prepare for Your DCFS Meeting

This guide has outlined the types of documents and information that are essential in presenting your criminal record and personal growth to DCFS. The following compilation serves as a checklist to utilize as you prepare for DCFS review. Keep in mind that not every question will be relevant to your situation—it will vary by case.

1. Criminal-Case Documents

- ☐ Have you obtained your certified court disposition?
 - ☐ Do you have proof of your completed probation or parole period?
 - ☐ Have you gathered all the paperwork regarding any expungements or sealings?
 - ☐ Can you provide a brief explanation of the incident(s)? Include the date, your age at the time, the circumstances, etc.
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2. Rehabilitation Documentation

- ☐ Do you have certificates of completion? These may be related to treatment, counseling, domestic violence or anger management, parenting, etc.
 - ☐ Have you obtained letters of support? These may be from an employer, clergy or congregation leader, community leader, neighbors, etc.
 - ☐ Do you have evidence of sobriety or treatment progress?
 - ☐ Do you have evidence of stable relationships and/or community ties?
-

3. Parenting Capacity

- ☐ Are you able to show evidence of involvement with this child?
 - ☐ Have you provided past caregiving and/or babysitting to this child or other children?
 - ☐ Is your home ready to accommodate a child? Examples may include a bedroom for the child or other safety items like a car seat, locks on or safe storage of potentially hazardous materials, etc.
 - ☐ Do you have a daily plan for this child, including school, transportation, and care?
-

4. Signs of Stability

- ☐ Can you show that you have stable housing? Have a copy of your lease or mortgage, or other proof of address.
 - ☐ Do you have a transportation plan for this child? This can include all available forms of transportation (car, public transit, etc.).
 - ☐ Do you have a backup childcare option or emergency plan in place if you are unable to care for the child during a brief period of time? It will be helpful to have multiple emergency contacts.
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5. Personal Statement Preparation

- ☐ Have you drafted an accountability statement?
 - ☐ Are you able to describe what changed since the offense?
 - ☐ What protective factors have you identified that will contribute to the child's well-being?
 - ☐ How can you currently meet this child's needs?
-

6. Anticipated Questions About Your Offense and Caretaking Ability

- ☐ What happened?
- ☐ What has changed since then?
- ☐ How do you manage stress and/or conflict today?
- ☐ How will you keep the child safe?

7. Protective Factors DCFS Will Consider

- ☐ Do you have a strong support network?
 - ☐ Do you have a stable home environment?
 - ☐ Are you employed and/or have a stable income?
 - ☐ Are you involved in the community?
-

8. Child-Centered Plan

- ☐ Have you created a school continuity plan for this child?
 - ☐ Have you made a medical and/or therapy plan for this child?
 - ☐ How do you plan to maintain the child's cultural ties and heritage?
 - ☐ What is your visitation plan for siblings and parents?
-

Notes:

Frequently Asked Questions: Criminal Conviction Records & Relative Homes

Q: Where do I get information about my criminal case and court proceedings?

A: Criminal records are available through different sources, including from the Illinois State Police, your local police department, or your local county court. Start at every police department where you have been arrested and request a RAP sheet, because DCFS may ask about arrests that did not get referred for criminal prosecution. Then, go to the courthouse for copies of the dispositions on cases that were formally prosecuted.

Q: If I have a conviction in another state, how is that considered?

A: You should look at comparable offenses in the state of Illinois. See the Appendix at the end of this document for a list of criminal convictions in Illinois that bar relative caregiver certification.

Q: Who is required to complete a criminal background screening for a child to be placed in a certified relative caregiver home?

A: All adults in the home must receive a name-based criminal background check. To be approved as a certified relative caregiver home, all adults must be fingerprinted. DCFS cannot approve a relative home as a certified relative caregiver home if any adult refuses to complete fingerprinting. While a home cannot be a certified relative home under federal requirements without the completion of fingerprints, DCFS can make exceptions to fingerprinting requirements for adults with immigration-status-related concerns and adults who lack fingerprints. DCFS may still pay the full board rate for these homes, at its discretion, even if the home cannot be certified under the federal standards.

Q: Does a conviction disqualify me from becoming a certified relative caregiver?

A: Possibly. It depends on the type of conviction. There are some convictions that are automatically disqualifying. For all other convictions on your record, DCFS is required to complete an individualized assessment of your criminal history. Even if your background check reveals a criminal conviction, unless it falls under an automatically disqualifying category, DCFS may approve the home so long as DCFS determines your criminal history doesn't impact the safety of the home. DCFS must consider the following factors: the type of crime, the number of crimes, the nature of the offense, the age of the person at the time of the crime, the length of time that has elapsed since the last conviction, the relationship of the crime to the caregiver's ability to care for children, the role that the adult will have with the child, and any evidence of rehabilitation.

Q: If an adult in my home has a conviction does that disqualify me from becoming a certified relative caregiver?

A: Possibly. It depends on the details of the conviction. DCFS is required to evaluate their criminal history. Even if their background check reveals a criminal conviction, DCFS may approve the home so long as DCFS determines their criminal history doesn't impact the safety of the home. DCFS must consider the following factors: the type of crime, the number of crimes, the nature of the offense, the age of the person at the time of the crime, the length of time that has elapsed since the last conviction, the relationship of the crime to the caregiver's ability to care for children, the role that the adult will have with the child, and any evidence of rehabilitation.

Q: What happens if I am denied as a certified relative caregiver due to my criminal record or another adult living in the home's criminal record? Is there anything I can do about it?

A: DCFS must provide you with written notice of the denial and the steps available to have the decision reviewed.

Q: Is it possible for a relative to be a placement resource if the relative home does not meet¹ the criteria² for a certified relative caregiver home even if the reason the home was denied certification was due to a prohibited criminal conviction?

A: Yes, the relative home can be evaluated under the criteria delineated in the Children and Family Services Act for such instances (i.e., the relative is not a licensed foster parent, the relative has declined to seek approval as a certified relative caregiver, or the relative was denied certified relative caregiver home status). DCFS can grant a waiver for a prohibited offense to allow placement if DCFS makes that determination based on a comprehensive evaluation of the caregiver's and household members' ability to serve as a safe home.

Q: How do the criminal record requirements for certified relative caregiver homes and licensed foster homes differ?

A: The criminal offenses that are prohibited for licensure as a foster home apply to ALL adult household members in foster homes regardless of whether the adult is in the caregiver role or not. Additionally, for certified relative caregiver homes, DCFS must limit the evaluation of criminal records to information that bears a "reasonable and rational relation" to caregiving capacity and overall safety provided by the residents of that home.

Q: Why is the differentiation in standards for certified relative caregiver homes, including standards regarding criminal records, important?

A: The KIND Act requires certified relative caregiver standards, including background screening requirements, to align with national standards, recommending that states do not adopt criminal background prohibitions. The national standards also recommend that non-prohibited convictions be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with consideration of how the conviction relates to the safety of the child that is being placed in the relative's home and requires information used to bear a reasonable and rational relation to caregiver and home safety.

Q: Are there any recommendations made by the National Consortium (national expert guidance that Illinois' certification standards must be reasonably similar to) regarding relatives' access to fingerprinting?

A: Yes, the Consortium states that relative caregivers "need to be able to get fingerprinted quickly and easily." They advise state agencies, like DCFS, to re-evaluate their fingerprinting practices to identify ways to expedite fingerprint results. The Consortium notes some promising practices to improve fingerprinting access, such as using mobile fingerprinting machines (especially in rural areas and homes with a homebound adult), utilizing UPS or FedEx stores or similar locations with community-based fingerprinting services, using contracts for fingerprinting providers that require afterhours services and locations every 35 miles throughout the state, and allowing fingerprinting to be completed at child welfare offices.

¹ This also applies to certified relative caregiver homes that previously met certification standards, but subsequently lose certification status for reasons that cannot be remedied with reasonable support. This means youth already placed in homes that lose their certification status do not need to be moved as they can be reviewed under the alternate placement standards for non-certified, non-licensed relative homes. These alternate standards make allowances for offenses not permitted under relative caregiver certification standards.

² A relative home may meet criminal records standards required under the KIND Act, but if the home fails to meet other criteria required for relative caregiver home certification, the home must be considered under the criminal records criteria required for relative homes that are not a licensed foster home, relative homes in which the relative has declined to pursue certification, or the relative home has been denied certification.

Resources

For more information about relative and parental rights, access additional resources at www.aclu-il.org/KIND. If you have questions or want to share any of your experiences and/or concerns, please contact us at kind@aclu-il.org.

You can find additional support & information at:

- **For immediate DCFS assistance:** DCFS Relative Caregiver Hotline (24/7), 800-252-2873
- **For questions about relative involvement & foster caregiving:** DCFS Advocacy Office, 800-232-3798 or Foster Parent Helpline, 866-368-5204
- **All applicants, certified relative caregivers, and the residents of certified relative caregiver homes can file complaints at:** dcfs.advocacy@illinois.gov
- **For general information:** @ilchildrenandfamilyservices (Instagram)
- **For relative caregiver support organizations in Illinois:** cfsil.org/resources/family-support-networks/

Appendix: Criminal Convictions That Bar Relative Caregiver Certification

Some of the offenses listed below can be charged as misdemeanors or felonies, but **ONLY felony convictions** prevent relative caregiver certification. For offenses listed under “Assault or Battery” and “Drug-Related Offenses,” **only convictions of felony offenses** committed by the potential certified relative caregiver **within the last 5 years** prevent certification.

A felony conviction for any of the following offenses, if entered against a certified relative caregiver, will prevent certification of the relative caregiver’s home.

Child Abuse or Neglect / Crime Against Children

- Wrongs to Children Act [720 ILCS 150]
- Kidnapping [720 ILCS 5/10-1]
- Aggravated kidnapping [720 ILCS 5/10-2]
- Unlawful restraint [720 ILCS 5/10-3]
- Aggravated unlawful restraint [720 ILCS 5/10-3.1]
- Forcible detention [720 ILCS 5/10-4]
- Child abduction [720 ILCS 5/10-5]
- Luring a minor [720 ILCS 5/10-5.1]
- Aiding or abetting child abduction [720 ILCS 5/10-7]
- Unlawful sending of a public conveyance travel ticket to a minor [720 ILCS 5/10-8.1]
- Trafficking in persons, involuntary servitude, and related offenses [720 ILCS 5/10-9]
- Failure to report the death or disappearance of a child under 13 years of age [720 ILCS 5/10-10]
- Predatory criminal sexual assault of a child [720 ILCS 5/11-1.40]
- Criminal sexual assault [720 ILCS 5/11-1.20]
- Aggravated criminal sexual assault [720 ILCS 5/11-1.30]
- Criminal sexual abuse [720 ILCS 5/11-1.50]
- Aggravated criminal sexual abuse [720 ILCS 5/11-1.60]
- Indecent solicitation of a child [720 ILCS 5/11-6]
- Indecent solicitation of an adult [720 ILCS 5/11-6.5]
- Solicitation to meet a child [720 ILCS 5/11-6.6]
- Sexual exploitation of a child [720 ILCS 5/11-9.1]
- Permitting sexual abuse of a child [720 ILCS 5/11-9.1A]
- Failure to report sexual abuse of a child [720 ILCS 5/11-9.1B]

- Presence within school zone by child sex offender [720 ILCS 5/119.3]
- Sexual predator / child sex offender present or loitering in or near public parks [720 ILCS 5/11-9.4-1]
- Solicitation of a sexual act [720 ILCS 5/11-14.1]
- Promoting commercial sexual exploitation of a child [720 ILCS 5/11-14.4]
- Patronizing a sexually exploited child [720 ILCS 5/11-18.1]
- Child pornography [720 ILCS 5/11-20.1]
- Child pornography by a sex offender [720 ILCS 5/11-24]
- Grooming [720 ILCS 5/11-25]
- Traveling to meet a child [720 ILCS 5/11-26]
- Criminal street gang recruitment on school grounds or public property adjacent to school grounds and criminal street gang recruitment of a minor [720 ILCS 5/12-6.4]
- Ritual abuse of a child [720 ILCS 5/12-33]
- Female genital mutilation [720 ILCS 5/12-34]
- Endangering the life or health of a child [720 ILCS 5/12C-5]
- Child abandonment [720 ILCS 5/12C-10]
- Abandonment of a school bus containing children [720 ILCS 5/12C-20]
- Contributing to the delinquency or criminal delinquency of a minor [720 ILCS 5/12C-30]
- Drug induced infliction of harm to a child athlete [720 ILCS 5/12C-45]

Spousal and Intimate Partner Abuse

- Battery of an unborn child; aggravated battery of an unborn child [720 ILCS 5/12-3.1]
- Domestic battery [720 ILCS 5/12-3.2]
- Aggravated domestic battery [720 ILCS 5/12-3.3]
- Violation of an order of protection [720 ILCS 5/12-3.4]

Rape and Sexual Assault

- Criminal sexual assault [720 ILCS 5/11-1.20]
- Aggravated criminal sexual assault [720 ILCS 5/11-1.30]
- Criminal sexual abuse [720 ILCS 5/11-1.50]
- Aggravated criminal sexual abuse [720 ILCS 5/11-1.60]

Homicide

- First degree murder [720 ILCS 5/9-1]
- Intentional homicide of an unborn child [720 ILCS 5/9-1.2]
- Second degree murder [720 ILCS 5/9-2]
- Voluntary manslaughter of an unborn child [720 ILCS 5/9-2.1]
- Involuntary manslaughter and reckless homicide [720 ILCS 5/9-3]
- Involuntary manslaughter and reckless homicide of an unborn child [720 ILCS 5/9-3.2]
- Drug induced homicide [720 ILCS 5/9-3.3]
- Concealment of homicidal death [720 ILCS 5/9-3.4]
- Concealment of death [720 ILCS 5/9-3.5]

Assault or Battery

These offenses only prevent certification if committed by the prospective certified relative caregiver within the past 5 years.

- Aggravated assault [720 ILCS 5/12-2]
- Aggravated battery [720 ILCS 5/12-3.05]
- Violation of a civil no contact order [720 ILCS 5/12-3.8]
- Violation of a stalking no contact order [720 ILCS 5/12-3.9]
- Abuse or criminal neglect of a long-term care facility resident; criminal abuse or neglect of an elderly person or person with a disability [720 ILCS 5/12-4.4a]
- Vehicular endangerment [720 ILCS 5/12-5.02]
- Compelling organization membership of persons [720 ILCS 5/12-6.5]

- Compelling confession or information by force or threat [720 ILCS 5/12-7]
- Hate crime [720 ILCS 5/12-7.1]
- Stalking [720 ILCS 5/12-7.3]
- Aggravated stalking [720 ILCS 5/12-7.4]
- Dismembering a human body [720 ILCS 5/12-20.5]
- Ritual mutilation [720 ILCS 5/12-32]
- Robbery; aggravated robbery [720 ILCS 5/18-1]
- Armed robbery [720 ILCS 5/18-2]
- Vehicular hijacking [720 ILCS 5/18-3]
- Aggravated vehicular hijacking [720 ILCS 5/18-4]
- Vehicular invasion [720 ILCS 5/18-6]
- Home invasion [720 ILCS 5/19-6]
- Aggravated arson [720 ILCS 5/20-1.1]
- Aggravated discharge of a firearm [720 ILCS 5/24-1.2]
- Aggravated discharge of a machine gun or a firearm equipped with a device designed or used for silencing the report of a firearm [720 ILCS 5/24-1.2-5]
- Mob action [720 ILCS 5/25-1]
- Terrorism [720 ILCS 5/29D-14.9]
- Making a terrorist threat [720 ILCS 5/29D-20]
- Resisting or obstructing a peace officer, firefighter, or correctional institution employee [720 ILCS 5/31-1]
- Disarming a peace officer or correctional institution employee [720 ILCS 5/31-1a]
- Armed violence [720 ILCS 5/33A-2]

Drug-Related Offenses

These offenses only prevent certification if committed by the prospective certified relative caregiver within the past 5 years.

- Bath Salts Prohibition Act [720 ILCS 542]
- Cannabis Control Act [720 ILCS 550]
- Controlled Substances Act [720 ILCS 570]
- Drug Paraphernalia Control Act [720 ILCS 600]
- Methamphetamine Control and Community Protection Act [720 ILCS 646]
- Methamphetamine Precursor Control Act [720 ILCS 648]
- Use of Intoxicating Compounds Act [720 ILCS 690]
- Use of a dangerous place for the commission of a controlled substance or cannabis offense [720 ILCS 5/12-5.3]
- Bath Salts Prohibition Act [720 ILCS 542/1]