**Sec. 5123.081.** (A) As used in this section:

(1)(a) "Applicant" means ~~a~~ any of the following:

(i) A person who is under final consideration for appointment to or employment with the department of developmental disabilities~~, including, but not limited to, a~~ or a county board of developmental disabilities;

(ii) A person who is being transferred to the department ~~and an~~ or a county board;

(iii) An employee who is being recalled to or reemployed by the department or a county board after a layoff;

(iv) A person under final consideration for a direct services position with a provider or subcontractor.

(b) Neither of the following is an applicant:

(i) A person who is employed by a responsible entity in a position for which a criminal records check is required by this section and either is being considered for a different position with the responsible entity or is returning after a leave of absence or seasonal break in employment, unless the responsible entity has reason to believe that the person has committed a disqualifying offense;

(ii) A person who is to provide only respite care under a family support services program established under section 5126.11 of the Revised Code if a family member of the individual with mental retardation or a developmental disability who is to receive the respite care selects the person.

(2) "Criminal records check" has the same meaning as in section 109.572 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Direct services position" means an employment position in which the employee has the opportunity to be alone with or exercises supervision or control over one or more individuals with mental retardation or a developmental disability.

(4) "Disqualifying offense" means any of the offenses listed or described in divisions (A)(3)(a) to (e) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code.

(5)(a) "Employee" means either of the following:

(i) A person appointed to or employed by the department of developmental disabilities or a county board of developmental disabilities;

(ii) A person employed in a direct services position by a provider or subcontractor.

(b) "Employee" does not mean a person who provides only respite care under a family support services program established under section 5126.11 of the Revised Code if a family member of the individual with mental retardation or a developmental disability who receives the respite care selected the person.

(6) "Minor drug possession offense" has the same meaning as in section 2925.01 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Provider" means a person that provides specialized services to individuals with mental retardation or a developmental disability and employs one or more persons in direct services positions.

(8) "Responsible entity" means the following:

(a) The department of developmental disabilities in the case of either of the following:

(i) A person who is an applicant because the person is under final consideration for appointment to or employment with the department, being transferred to the department, or being recalled to or reemployed by the department after a layoff;

(ii) A person who is an employee because the person is appointed to or employed by the department.

(b) A county board of developmental disabilities in the case of either of the following:

(i) A person who is an applicant because the person is under final consideration for appointment to or employment with the county board, being transferred to the county board, or being recalled to or reemployed by the county board after a layoff;

(ii) A person who is an employee because the person is appointed to or employed by the county board.

(c) A provider in the case of either of the following:

(i) A person who is an applicant because the person is under final consideration for a direct services position with the provider;

(ii) A person who is an employee because the person is employed in a direct services position by the provider.

(d) A subcontractor in the case of either of the following:

(i) A person who is an applicant because the person is under final consideration for a direct services position with the subcontractor;

(ii) A person who is an employee because the person is employed in a direct services position by the subcontractor.

(9) "Specialized services" means any program or service designed and operated to serve primarily individuals with mental retardation or a developmental disability, including a program or service provided by an entity licensed or certified by the department of developmental disabilities. If there is a question as to whether a provider or subcontractor is providing specialized services, the provider or subcontractor may request that the director of developmental disabilities make a determination. The director's determination is final.

(10) "Subcontractor" means a person to which both of the following apply:

(a) The person has either of the following:

(i) A subcontract with a provider to provide specialized services included in the contract between the provider and the department of developmental disabilities or a county board of developmental disabilities;

(ii) A subcontract with another subcontractor to provide specialized services included in a subcontract between the other subcontractor and a provider or other subcontractor.

(b) The person employs one or more persons in direct services positions.

(B) ~~The director of developmental disabilities~~ A responsible entity shall not employ an applicant or continue to employ an employee if either of the following applies:

(1) The applicant or employee fails to comply with division (D)(3) of this section.

(2) Except as provided in rules adopted under this section, the applicant or employee is found by a criminal records check required by this section to have been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or been found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction for a disqualifying offense.

(C) Before employing an applicant in a position for which a criminal records check is required by this section, a responsible entity shall require the applicant to submit a statement with the applicant's signature attesting that the applicant has not been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or been found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction for a disqualifying offense. The responsible entity also shall require the applicant to sign an agreement under which the applicant agrees to notify the responsible entity within fourteen calendar days if, while employed by the responsible entity, the applicant is formally charged with, is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or is found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction for a disqualifying offense. The agreement shall provide that the applicant's failure to provide the notification may result in termination of the applicant's employment.

(D)(1) As a condition of employing any applicant in a position for which a criminal records check is required by this section, a responsible entity shall request the superintendent of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation to conduct a criminal records check ~~with respect to each applicant, except that the director is not required to request a criminal records check for an employee of the department who is being considered for a different position or is returning after a leave of absence or seasonal break in employment, as long as the director has no reason to believe that the employee has committed any of the offenses listed or described in division (E) of this section.~~

~~If the~~ of the applicant. If rules adopted under this section require an employee to undergo a criminal records check, a responsible entity shall request the superintendent to conduct a criminal records check of the employee at times specified in the rules as a condition of the responsible entity's continuing to employ the employee in a position for which a criminal records check is required by this section. If an applicant or employee does not present proof that the applicant or employee has been a resident of this state for the five-year period immediately prior to the date upon which the criminal records check is requested, the ~~director~~ responsible entity shall request that the superintendent ~~of the bureau~~ obtain information from the federal bureau of investigation as a part of the criminal records check ~~for the applicant~~. If the applicant or employee presents proof that the applicant or employee has been a resident of this state for that five-year period, the ~~director~~ responsible entity may request that the superintendent ~~of the bureau~~ include information from the federal bureau of investigation in the criminal records check. For purposes of this division, an applicant or employee may provide proof of residency in this state by presenting, with a notarized statement asserting that the applicant or employee has been a resident of this state for that five-year period, a valid driver's license, notification of registration as an elector, a copy of an officially filed federal or state tax form identifying the applicant's or employee's permanent residence, or any other document the ~~director~~ responsible entity considers acceptable.

~~(C) The director~~ (2) A responsible entity shall ~~provide~~ do all of the following:

(a) Provide to each applicant and employee for whom a criminal records check is required by this section a copy of the form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code~~, provide to each applicant~~ and a standard impression sheet to obtain fingerprint impressions prescribed pursuant to division (C)(2) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code~~, obtain~~;

(b) Obtain the completed form and standard impression sheet from ~~each~~ the applicant~~, and forward~~ or employee;

(c) Forward the completed form and standard impression sheet to the superintendent ~~of the bureau of criminal identification and investigation~~ at the time the criminal records check is requested.

(3) Any applicant or employee who receives pursuant to this division a copy of the form prescribed pursuant to division (C)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code and a copy of ~~an~~ the standard impression sheet prescribed pursuant to division (C)(2) of that section and who is requested to complete the form and provide a set of the applicant's or employee's fingerprint impressions shall complete the form or provide all the information necessary to complete the form and shall provide the ~~material~~ standard impression sheet with the impressions of the applicant's or employee's fingerprints. ~~If an applicant, upon request, fails to provide the information necessary to complete the form or fails to provide impressions of the applicant's fingerprints, the director shall not employ the applicant.~~

~~(D) The director~~ (4) A responsible entity shall pay to the bureau of criminal identification and investigation the fee prescribed pursuant to division (C)(3) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code for each criminal records check requested and conducted pursuant to this section.

(E) A responsible entity may request any other state or federal agency to supply the ~~director~~ responsible entity with a written report regarding the criminal record of ~~each~~ an applicant or employee. ~~With regard to an applicant who becomes a department employee, if the~~ If an employee holds an occupational or professional license or other credentials, the ~~director~~ responsible entity may request that the state or federal agency that regulates the employee's occupation or profession supply the ~~director~~ responsible entity with a written report of any information pertaining to the employee's criminal record that the agency obtains in the course of conducting an investigation or in the process of renewing the employee's license or other credentials. The responsible entity may consider the reports when determining whether to employ the applicant or to continue to employ the employee.

~~(E) Except as provided in division (K)(2) of this section and in rules adopted by the director in accordance with division (M) of this section, the director shall not employ a person to fill a position with the department who has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the following:~~

~~(1) A violation of section 2903.01, 2903.02, 2903.03, 2903.04, 2903.11, 2903.12, 2903.13, 2903.16, 2903.21, 2903.34, 2903.341, 2905.01, 2905.02, 2905.05, 2907.02, 2907.03, 2907.04, 2907.05, 2907.06, 2907.07, 2907.08, 2907.09, 2907.21, 2907.22, 2907.23, 2907.25, 2907.31, 2907.32, 2907.321, 2907.322, 2907.323, 2911.01, 2911.02, 2911.11, 2911.12, 2919.12, 2919.22, 2919.24, 2919.25, 2923.12, 2923.13, 2923.161, 2925.02, 2925.03, 2925.04, 2925.05, 2925.06, or 3716.11 of the Revised Code, a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, a violation of section 2919.23 of the Revised Code that would have been a violation of section 2905.04 of the Revised Code as it existed prior to July 1, 1996, had the violation occurred prior to that date, a violation of section 2925.11 of the Revised Code that is not a minor drug possession offense, or felonious sexual penetration in violation of former section 2907.12 of the Revised Code;~~

~~(2) A felony contained in the Revised Code that is not listed in this division, if the felony bears a direct and substantial relationship to the duties and responsibilities of the position being filled;~~

~~(3) Any offense contained in the Revised Code constituting a misdemeanor of the first degree on the first offense and a felony on a subsequent offense, if the offense bears a direct and substantial relationship to the position being filled and the nature of the services being provided by the department;~~

~~(4) A violation of an existing or former municipal ordinance or law of this state, any other state, or the United States, if the offense is substantially equivalent to any of the offenses listed or described in division (E)(1), (2), or (3) of this section.~~

(F) ~~Prior to employing an applicant, the director shall require the applicant to submit a statement with the applicant's signature attesting that the applicant has not been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the offenses listed or described in division (E) of this section. The director also shall require the applicant to sign an agreement under which the applicant agrees to notify the director within fourteen calendar days if, while employed with the department, the applicant is ever formally charged with, convicted of, or pleads guilty to any of the offenses listed or described in division (E) of this section. The agreement shall inform the applicant that failure to report formal charges, a conviction, or a guilty plea may result in being dismissed from employment.~~ As a condition of employing an applicant in a position for which a criminal records check is required by this section and that involves transporting individuals with mental retardation or developmental disabilities or operating a responsible entity's vehicles for any purpose, the responsible entity shall obtain the applicant's driving record from the bureau of motor vehicles. If rules adopted under this section require a responsible entity to obtain an employee's driving record, the responsible entity shall obtain the employee's driving record from the bureau at times specified in the rules as a condition of continuing to employ the employee. The responsible entity may consider the applicant's or employee's driving record when determining whether to employ the applicant or to continue to employ the employee.

(G) ~~The director shall pay to the bureau of criminal identification and investigation the fee prescribed pursuant to division (C)(3) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code for each criminal records check requested and conducted pursuant to this section.~~ A responsible entity may employ an applicant conditionally pending receipt of a report regarding the applicant requested under this section. The responsible entity shall terminate the applicant's employment if it is determined from a report that the applicant failed to inform the responsible entity that the applicant had been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or been found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction for a disqualifying offense.

(H) A responsible entity may charge an applicant a fee for costs the responsible entity incurs in obtaining a report regarding the applicant under this section if the responsible entity notifies the applicant of the amount of the fee at the time of the applicant's initial application for employment and that, unless the fee is paid, the responsible entity will not consider the applicant for employment. The fee shall not exceed the amount of the fee, if any, the responsible entity pays for the report.

(I)(1) Any report obtained pursuant to this section is not a public record for purposes of section 149.43 of the Revised Code and shall not be made available to any person, other than the following:

(a) The applicant or employee who is the subject of the ~~records check or criminal records check~~ report or the applicant's or employee's representative~~, the department~~;

(b) The responsible entity that requested the report or its representative~~, a county board of developmental disabilities, and any~~;

(c) The department if a county board, provider, or subcontractor is the responsible entity that requested the report and the department requests the responsible entity to provide a copy of the report to the department;

(d) A county board if a provider or subcontractor is the responsible entity that requested the report and the county board requests the responsible entity to provide a copy of the report to the county board;

(e) Any court, hearing officer, or other necessary individual involved in a case dealing with ~~the~~ any of the following:

(i) The denial of employment to the applicant or ~~the~~ employee;

(ii) The denial, suspension, or revocation of a certificate ~~or evidence of registration~~ under section ~~5123.082~~ 5123.166 or 5123.45 of the Revised Code;

(iii) A civil or criminal action regarding the medicaid program or a program the department administers.

(2) An ~~individual~~ applicant or employee for whom ~~the director~~ responsible entity has obtained reports under this section may submit a written request to the ~~director~~ responsible entity to have copies of the reports sent to any state agency, entity of local government, or private entity. The ~~individual~~ applicant or employee shall specify in the request the agencies or entities to which the copies are to be sent. On receiving the request, the ~~director~~ responsible entity shall send copies of the reports to the agencies or entities specified.

~~The director~~ (3) A responsible entity may request that a state agency, entity of local government, or private entity send copies to the ~~director~~ responsible entity of any report regarding a records check or criminal records check that the agency or entity possesses, if the ~~director~~ responsible entity obtains the written consent of the individual who is the subject of the report.

~~(I) The director shall request the registrar of motor vehicles to supply the director with a certified abstract regarding the record of convictions for violations of motor vehicle laws of each applicant who will be required by the applicant's employment to transport individuals with mental retardation or a developmental disability or to operate the department's vehicles for any other purpose. For each abstract provided under this section, the director shall pay the amount specified in section 4509.05 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(J) The director~~ (4) A responsible entity shall provide each applicant and employee with a copy of any report ~~or abstract~~ obtained about the applicant or employee under this section.

~~(K)(1) The director shall inform each person, at the time of the person's initial application for employment, that the person is required to provide a set of impressions of the person's fingerprints and that a criminal records check is required to be conducted and satisfactorily completed in accordance with section 109.572 of the Revised Code if the person comes under final consideration for employment as a precondition to employment in a position.~~

~~(2) The director may employ an applicant pending receipt of reports requested under this section. The director shall terminate employment of any such applicant if it is determined from the reports that the applicant failed to inform the director that the applicant had been convicted of or pleaded guilty to any of the offenses listed or described in division (E) of this section.~~

~~(L) The director may charge an applicant a fee for costs the director incurs in obtaining reports, abstracts, or fingerprint impressions under this section. A fee charged under this division shall not exceed the amount of the fees the director pays under divisions (G) and (I) of this section. If a fee is charged under this division, the director shall notify the applicant of the amount of the fee at the time of the applicant's initial application for employment and that, unless the fee is paid, the director will not consider the applicant for employment.~~

~~(M)~~(J) The director of developmental disabilities shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this section~~, including rules specifying~~.

(1) The rules may do the following:

(a) Require employees to undergo criminal records checks under this section;

(b) Require responsible entities to obtain the driving records of employees under this section;

(c) If the rules require employees to undergo criminal records checks, require responsible entities to obtain the driving records of employees, or both, exempt one or more classes of employees from the requirements.

(2) The rules shall do both of the following:

(a) If the rules require employees to undergo criminal records checks, require responsible entities to obtain the driving records of employees, or both, specify the times at which the criminal records checks are to be conducted and the driving records are to be obtained;

(b) Specify circumstances under which ~~the director~~ a responsible entity may employ ~~a person who has~~ an applicant or employee who is found by a criminal records check required by this section to have been convicted of ~~or~~, pleaded guilty to ~~an~~, or been found eligible for intervention in lieu of conviction for a disqualifying offense ~~listed or described in division (E) of this section~~ but ~~who~~ meets standards in regard to rehabilitation set by the director.