

**Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Guidelines for License Applicants with Criminal Convictions**



<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/crimconvict.htm>

These guidelines are issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) pursuant to the [Texas Occupations Code, § 53.025\(a\)](#). These guidelines describe the process by which TDLR determines whether a criminal conviction renders an applicant an unsuitable candidate for the license or whether a conviction warrants revocation or suspension of a license previously granted. These guidelines present the general factors that are considered in all cases and the reasons why particular crimes are considered to relate to each type of license issued by TDLR.

Individuals may request TDLR review their criminal background before applying for a license. TDLR uses the same process for this pre-application evaluation as the process described below. See the [Criminal History Evaluation Letter page](#) for more information.

<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/crimHistoryEval.htm>

Every individual who applies for a license with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (“the Department”) is subject to a criminal background check to determine his or her suitability for the license. In 2009, the Texas Legislature enacted new provisions to allow a person to find out before applying whether he or she would likely be denied a license due to his or her criminal history. This was due to the time and expense involved in applying for a license, which in some cases includes completing the required education and taking an examination. See [Section 51.4012](#) and [Chapter 53, Subchapter D, of the Occupations Code](#), which allows a person to request a criminal history evaluation letter from the Department prior to actually applying for a license.

CTC’s Licensed Massage Therapy Program applicants must pass a Criminal Background Check and be clean in the 11 Panel Drug Screen during their Registration Packet process to be accepted into the program.