

Background Check Agreement

Application for Admission Masters Level Programs

Section 1

Seminaries seek to be communities where students, faculty and staff live within a covenant of hospitality, trust, and safety. These covenantal commitments are foundational to the mission of The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, which is to foster academic excellence, formation for Christian ministry, and faithful witness in mission. Furthermore, as seminaries are charged with the preparation of their students for ministry, they also are responsible for students serving in congregations and agencies in which they are placed. Their responsibilities are theological, ethical, and legal. Theologically, seminaries are responsible for creating an environment that nurtures and sustains their objectives of theological education. Ethically and legally, seminaries are responsible if a student's abuse of power or role endangers or violates members of the seminary community or the congregations or agencies in which he or she serves.

For the above theological, ethical, and legal reasons, The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago requires background checks as part of the admissions process for all entering masters students.

Section 2

In connection with evaluating my application for admission to The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago; I understand that The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago may perform a criminal background check to verify my social security number, and determine if I have a criminal history. I understand that a criminal history may not automatically disqualify me from admission to The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

By signing this application, I freely and voluntarily authorize The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and/or its agents to perform a criminal background check. I also authorize The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago to make an independent investigation of my background and character which may include, but not limited to, a review of public records, motor vehicle records, all references, past employment history, and records maintained by retail protective and security associations.

I also understand that failing to reveal and/or falsifying information relating to my application will result in denial of my application, or revoking of my admission.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the above statements and conditions.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____