# MFT Program Policy on Student & Faculty Background Checks

## **Policy Availability**

This policy is available to the public via the link to <u>Program Handbook and Policies</u> on the <u>MFT</u> website.

### MFT Program Policy on Required Background Checks

MFT students and faculty have contact with children in the course of their training and clinical practice at FamilyWorks and/or internships. Therefore, and in accordance with the <u>VSU Minors on Campus program</u>, all faculty and applicants accepted into the MFT program are required to submit a criminal background check that includes a sexual predator search. Background checks are not kept in students' permanent files in the MFT program; rather, they are retained in the MOC office.

Notification that a criminal/sexual predator background check is a program requirement is published or referenced in the following places.

- 1. the MFT webpage at Admission Requirements
- 2. the *Welcome to the Program* email sent by the MFT Program Director to each student newly accepted for admission.
- 3. the *Admissions Information Letter* that the MFT Program Director sends to each newly admitted student along with instructions for how to get a background check.
- 4. the *MFT Clinical Training and Personal Disclosure Policy*, which is signed by all students at New Student Orientation.

#### **Procedure**

Applicants accepted for admission to the MFT program will receive a link by email from the <u>MOC office</u> to which they go to sign up/give permission to have a background check done. Background checks must be renewed every four years. See the <u>Policy on Minors on Campus</u> for more detail about Minors on Campus requirements.

### Schedule for Update of This Policy

This policy will be updated as necessary, as COEHS, MOC, and/or program requirement change.