

Today's Decisions Affect Tomorrow:

It's not just your job that can be impacted. A number of professional colleges (Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing, etc.) across the country are instituting admissions standards that take a hard look at individuals with prior alcohol or other drug citations/arrests. The timing, severity and number of offenses are considered in admissions decisions. Many professional colleges also conduct 'background checks' on newly admitted students or students entering clinical rotations. Prior alcohol/drug-related arrests or citations can be grounds for discontinuing students in the program or placing restrictions on their progress. Not reporting a prior arrest/citation can be grounds for review or disciplinary action.

Drug and alcohol convictions include:

- ⇒ Carrying or manufacturing a false ID
- ⇒ Misrepresenting your age to purchase alcohol
- ⇒ Possession of alcohol by a minor
- ⇒ Driving under the influence of intoxicants or controlled substances
- ⇒ Disorderly conduct
- ⇒ Purchasing and/or providing alcohol for minors
- ⇒ Possession and/or use of controlled substances (i.e. drugs) or drug paraphernalia



Today many employers do a complete background check before making a final job offer. This means that if you have an alcohol or drug related misdemeanor or felony, you may be denied a job despite your educational accomplishments.

Your degree may not be worth as much as you think if you have been convicted of/cited for an alcohol or drug related crime.

Information obtained from:
<http://www.missouri.edu/~mopip>



What's Your Degree Worth?



Inside is a list of occupations that may be denied to you based on an alcohol or drug related conviction.

| EDUCATION AND LICENSE | | CRIMINAL VIOLATION |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| OCCUPATION | REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO PROFESSION | RESULT IF CONVICTED/CITED OF MISDEMEANOR OR FELONY |
| Accountant | At least a bachelor's degree in Accounting or related field License: State Board of Accountancy | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend certificate |
| Architect | Bachelor of Architecture from an NAAB-accredited program; internship; passage of all divisions of ARE Board of Architects, Professional Engineers, and Surveyors license | Qualifications include "good moral character and reputation"; the board may refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate certificate |
| Counselor | Master's degree in counseling; Supervised clinical experience; State exam License: CACREP, CORE, or NBCC | The committee may refuse, revoke, or suspend license |
| Dentist | Degree in dentistry from an accredited school; written/practical exams License: Dental Board | Qualifications include "good moral character and reputation"; the board may refuse to issue, renew, revoke, or suspend license |
| Lawyer/ Attorney | 4 years Undergraduate, 3 years law school and pass bar exam Admissions into Iowa Bar, license | The Board may deny admission into the bar based on character and fitness, such as the ability to conduct oneself in accordance with and respect for the law. |
| Nurse | Degree from an accredited nursing program; National exam License: State Board of Nursing | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license |
| Optometrist | Doctor of Optometry degree for an accredited optometry school; State board exam License: IA State Board of Optometry | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license |
| Pharmacist | PharmD from school accredited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical Education; Exam License: IA Board of Pharmacy | The board may suspend, revoke or place on probationary license if one violates a statute or law of this state, another state or the United States. |
| Psychologist | Doctoral degree in psychology from an accredited program; Internship; Dissertation License: Iowa Board of Psychology Examiners | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license |
| Physical Therapist | Graduate from an accredited physical therapist educational program; Pass exam License: Iowa Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may restrict, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue a license to a person found guilty in this or any other state |
| Physician | Degree from a medical college, LCME accredited or osteopathic college License: pass 3 licensing exams; Iowa Board of Medical Examiners grants a state license | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license |
| Police Officer, Federal or State | High school diploma or GED; May require a bachelors degree in criminal justice | Failure of background check, denied employment. |
| Professional Engineer | B.S. in Engineering from an ABET accredited school Professional Engineer License; State exam | Qualifications include "good moral character" |
| Social Worker | B.A. in Social Work or M.S.W. License: Iowa Board of Social Work Examiners | Requirements include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license |
| Teacher | Bachelor's degree from an accredited teacher education program IA Department of Education License | State Board of Educational Examiners may refuse to issue, suspend or revoke the license of an individual who has pled guilty or been found guilty of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude. |
| Veterinarian | Degree from a 4-year program at an accredited college of veterinary medicine License: Veterinary Medicine Board; pass Veterinary Licensing Exam | Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may refuse to issue or renew certificate |