PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to require all students who enter the PA Program to have a criminal background check completed prior to matriculation.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Wake Forest School of Medicine PA Program students.

DEFINITIONS

A. **Policy**: A statement of principle that is developed for the purpose of guiding decisions and activities related to governance, administration, or management of care, treatment, services or other activities. A policy may help to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations, promote one or more missions, contain guidelines for governance, and set parameters within which faculty, staff, students, visitors, and others are expected to operate.

B. **WFBH**: Wake Forest Baptist Health (WFBH) is a health system that includes Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center and all affiliated organizations including Wake Forest University Health Sciences (WFUHS), North Carolina Baptist Hospital (NCBH), Lexington Medical Center (LMC), Davie Medical Center (DMC), Wilkes Medical Center (WMC), High Point Medical Center (HPMC), Wake Forest Baptist Imaging, LLC (WFBI), NCBH Outpatient Endoscopy, Wake Forest Health Network (WFHN), and Premier Surgery Center.

POLICY GUIDELINES

A. **Health Screening**

1. All students in the Wake Forest School of Medicine PA Program are required to undergo health screenings before matriculation and prior to beginning supervised clinical practice experiences (SCPES). The health screenings may include but are not limited to: verification of required immunizations, FitTesting, TB testing, and drug screening.
2. Additional health screenings may be required to verify that the student meets technical standards. The student may be responsible for the cost of these additional screenings. If the student does not meet technical standards, this could disrupt the timeline and/or ability of the student to participate in program curriculum.

B. Background Check

1. A signed background check authorization form is obtained from each applicant who has accepted an offer of admission to the program. The cost of this background check is covered by the deposit paid by the student on acceptance to the program.

2. The criminal background check includes but is not limited to the following:
   a. National Sex Offender Registry search
   b. a determination of areas of residence for the past seven years through a social security number check
   c. a state and local (county)-level search based on areas of residence for the past seven years for:
      ● all levels of criminal offense
      ● all types of adjudications
      ● all legal processes not yet resolved
      ● all types of offenses

3. If additional background checks or health screenings are required, the student may be responsible for the cost.

4. An offer of admission and/or continued enrollment in the PA program are conditional upon results of the background check. Should the background check uncover a criminal history, an offer of admission may be revoked, or an enrolled student may be dismissed.

REFERENCES
Technical Standards PA Program

REVISION DATES
5/2019; 4/2022