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**Criteria for Exclusion**

College Now will carefully consider all the information before any decisions are made that affect an individual's eligibility. Volunteers who are disqualified from participating in the program will receive a letter from the Director of Scholarship Services and Financial Aid.

- A) A person shall be disqualified and prohibited from serving as a volunteer mentor if the person has been found guilty of the following crimes:
  - 1) Any sexual, violent offenses or felonies committed during any point in the applicant's history.
  - 2) Alcohol and drug related misdemeanors – such as public intoxication, simple drug possession, drunk and disorderly conduct, possession of drug paraphernalia, DWUI, OVI, etc. – committed within the last five years.
  - 3) Multiple offenses (recurrence of the same offense) within the last 10 years.
  - 4) Any other criminal offense that would be considered by College Now to be a potential threat to its scholarship recipients – such as contributing to the delinquency of a minor, providing alcohol to a minor, small or petty theft, selling counterfeit goods, arson, extortion, lewd and lascivious conduct, stalking, reckless endangerment, etc.
- B) Guilty means that a person was found guilty following a trial, entered a guilty plea, entered a no contest plea accompanied by a court finding of guilty, regardless of whether there was an adjudication of guilt (conviction) or a withholding of guilt. This recommendation does not apply if criminal charges resulted in acquittal, Nolle Prosequi, or dismissal.
- C) Anyone who has been charged for any of the disqualifying offenses or for cases pending in court will not be permitted to volunteer until the official adjudication of the case.
- D) Frequency and type of criminal offenses will be considered when reviewing the volunteer's application and determining the applicant's eligibility for the program.
- E) This list of offenses is not intended to be all-inclusive and in no way sets limits on the offenses that are deemed grounds for disqualifying an individual from volunteering with College Now. Decisions on all other crimes or offenses not otherwise described above will be made at the sole discretion of the College Now staff.

As an organization which employs the same volunteers for an extended period of time, those volunteers may be subject to random background checks at any time during their volunteer period. If a volunteer is determined eligible to volunteer and is later arrested or convicted of any of the above crimes, he or she is required to notify College Now. He or she will be removed immediately from the mentoring program until the case is finally adjudicated. Failure to notify College Now of any arrests or convictions from the list above will result in the volunteer being immediately removed from the program permanently.

I have read the above policy and understand that College Now has the right to refuse my application to become a mentor based upon the results of my background check. I further understand that College Now reserves the right to run a background check on me at any point during my volunteer period, and that the results of any subsequent background checks may result in my removal from the Mentoring Program and termination as a volunteer with College Now.

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Signature

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Date

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Print Name