

Admission Review Process

The University of Southern Indiana (USI) is committed to increasing access to higher education and supporting all students in their efforts to succeed. USI is also committed to fostering a safe environment in which all members of the University community can thrive. As a part of the admission process, the University asks a series of questions about applicants' criminal history as it relates to misdemeanor and felony convictions. Having a criminal history is not a bar to admission. There is a process the applicant must follow to disclose their criminal history and to undergo review by the Dean of Students and the University CARE Team. The review process includes completing a Misdemeanor / Felony Report Follow-Up Questionnaire, available from the [Dean of Students](#), and meeting with university officials before the enrollment process can proceed. Applicants may be deferred or denied admission if their membership in the University community would be inappropriate or they are under conditions of post-release supervision that make enrollment impracticable. Applicants with current and related legal cases that have not been fully adjudicated may have their admission decision deferred until the conclusion of these legal proceedings.

Being convicted of a felony or being a registered sex offender is not an absolute bar to admission. However, being a registered sex offender does prohibit a student from living in University provided housing. It is also University policy that individuals with past drug-related convictions will not be permitted to live in University-owned property like, but not limited to residence halls and student apartments.

Individuals previously admitted to the University who wish to re-enroll must disclose to the Dean of Students all felony and misdemeanor convictions that occurred since their last term of enrollment. Current students with new felony or violent misdemeanor convictions must report each conviction to the Dean of Students during the semester in which the conviction occurs.

Failure to disclose required information at the time of application, re-enrollment, or conviction may result in invalidation of application, immediate suspension or expulsion from the University.

The Misdemeanor/Felony Review Process may not result in a final determination of an applicant's acceptance into a particular degree-granting program of the University. For example, some academic programs (like, but not limited to, certain health care programs) may have academic requirements that an applicant may not be eligible to meet based on their legal history. Please direct any related questions to the Department Chair of the specific academic program or major of your interest.

A copy of the decision and final notification concerning action on the application of a prospective student is sent to the appropriate University offices like, but not limited to, Admission, Graduate Studies, Registrar, Housing and Residence Life, Public Safety and/or the Counseling Center.

Questions and concerns regarding this policy should be directed to the [Dean of Students](#). You may also contact the office by calling 812-464-1862.

Misdemeanor/Felony Review Process

1. Upon disclosing a past misdemeanor or felony conviction on the University's admission application, housing contract or any other University document, the applicant or student will be referred to the Dean of Students and sent the Misdemeanor Felony Report Follow-Up Questionnaire to be completed.

2. Once the completed Questionnaire is received by the Dean of Students, the University will gather background information and a meeting will be scheduled with the applicant, the Dean of Students or Designee and other members of the University CARE Team to discuss the applicant or student's background and current situation.
3. All information gathered will then be shared with the University CARE Team (or a smaller subset of the CARE team) and a recommendation will be made regarding admission to the University.
4. The Dean of Students will make the final decision concerning the applicant or student's eligibility to continue with the enrollment process and any restrictions that may be imposed as conditions required for the applicant or student to attend the University.
5. Restrictions that may be imposed depend on the criminal history and strategies needed to support a successful university experience and may include, but are not limited to:
 - You must go directly to the Public Safety Office and sign in with the secretary/dispatcher upon every arrival and departure from campus.
 - You are not eligible to live or visit campus housing and are not to be on University housing property. Your presence there will be considered trespassing and you may be subject to arrest.
 - You are not eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Your presence there will be considered trespassing, and you may be subject to arrest.
 - Every semester the Dean of Students must approve the specific periods of time you are permitted to be on campus and you must contact the Dean of Students Office to set up a meeting as soon as you enroll in classes for the next semester so that your access schedule can be approved.
 - You must meet periodically and/or as needed with the Dean of Students or Designee, Public Safety or other members of the CARE Team as appropriate.
 - You must obtain permission from the Dean of Students before joining any student organization.
 - You must keep the Dean of Students apprised of any academic field experiences and/or internships you are involved in prior to your involvement.
 - You may not enter the University of Southern Indiana's Children's Learning Center. Your presence there may result in your arrest for trespassing.
 - Other restrictions as deemed appropriate by the University.