

As part of its commitment to protect the public, the College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists of Saskatchewan (CSASK) now requires a criminal record check for registration and licensing. CSASK, along with other health profession regulators in Saskatchewan and other regulators of audiology and speech-language pathology in Canada, has implemented more rigorous screening processes for applicants and registrants as an additional measure of public protection.

To meet the criminal record check (CRC) requirements outlined in CSASK bylaws and policy:

- CSASK applicants (except those seeking temporary registration or cross provincial practice licensure) shall obtain a criminal record check.
- CSASK practising registrants, where it has been more than five years since they have provided a criminal record check to CSASK, shall provide a CRC dated within the previous six months.
- Applicants/registrants who are not a resident or has not resided in Canada within the previous six months, shall provide another form of documentation to establish that they do not have the equivalent of a criminal record in their country of residence or previous residence.
- The type of CRC required by CSASK is the Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC) completed through Sterling Backcheck.
 - A CRC conducted through another source or without using the CSASK landing page of the Sterling Backcheck website will not be accepted. Please contact the CSASK office if you have completed an E-PIC through Sterling Backcheck in the previous six months.

For questions regarding CSASK's policy and/or procedures related to the criminal record check requirement, please contact the CSASK office.

WHY DOES CSASK ONLY ACCEPT CRC'S COMPLETED THROUGH STERLING BACKCHECK?

In 2024, following extensive deliberation and research, council decided that CRCs would be completed exclusively through Sterling Backcheck. This decision was not made lightly - in fact, discussions spanned over multiple council meetings. A variety of factors were carefully considered including security, document integrity, efficiency, convenience, consistency, and regulatory best practice. As with all council decisions, multiple perspectives and impacts were evaluated before a final determination was reached.

Sterling Backcheck is commonly used among health profession regulators due to the quality of the reports, protection of confidential and sensitive applicant/registrant information, fairness to registrants, accessibility, and operational efficiency. Sterling Backcheck serves government agencies, major retailers, banks, and tech companies who have the highest standards for protecting personal information.

The E-PIC Consists of Two Components:

- **Criminal Record Check (CRC)** - A search of adult convictions held within the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records.
- **Local Police Information (LPI)** - A search of additional convictions located outside of the National Repository and judicial matters reported by local police jurisdictions.

Enhanced Police Information Check:

In addition to criminal convictions reported in the RCMP National Repository, E-PIC includes a search of local police data sources that will provide the college with information regarding active judicial matters. E-PIC includes:

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| • criminal charges and pending charges | • release conditions |
| • warrants | • non-conviction outcomes |
| • peace bonds | • interim release conditions |
| • prohibition orders | • recent convictions that are not yet listed in the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records. |
| • probation orders | |

In contrast, a standard CRC is a name-based search of the RCMP National Repository of Criminal Records only.

WHERE DOES STERLING BACKCHECK ACCESS INFORMATION TO VERIFY IDENTIFICATION

Sterling Backcheck serves government agencies, major retailers, banks, and tech companies who have the highest standards for protecting personal information. In addition, Sterling Backcheck is commonly used among health profession regulators.

Sterling Backcheck has a partnership with TransUnion, a major Canadian credit bureau, to offer Electronic ID Verification (EIV) as a means of securely verifying your identity online using your unique consumer credit file. Sterling Backcheck does not have access to the candidate's credit information EIV does not require the credit report to be pulled and has no effect on your credit score/rating. Sterling Backcheck's privacy policies can be viewed [here](#). You may also email your questions directly to privacy@sterlingcheck.com.

Alternate and in-person ID verification is available, by printing out a form and bringing two pieces of identification to Canada Post. Candidates should review the requirements for acceptable proof of ID to ensure they have the necessary documents on hand.

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) may be referenced on Sterling Backcheck's website.

Sterling Backcheck Support:

[Contact the Sterling applicant support line](#) if you:

- have additional questions regarding Sterling Backcheck's policies or processes.
- require assistance navigating Sterling Backcheck's CRC (E-PIC) or ID Verification steps.
- have forgotten your Sterling Backcheck login details.