

BALTIMORE'S FAIR CHANCE HIRING LAW



BALTIMORE CITY COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION ENSURING INDIVIDUALS WITH A CRIMINAL HISTORY HAVE A FAIR CHANCE TO WORK

It is illegal for employers* in Baltimore City to ask about your criminal background during the job application process.

Employers **cannot** ask about your criminal history on a job application OR during a job interview! They can only check your criminal background AFTER a **conditional offer of employment is made** (hiring after this step may depend on the results of the background check).

A conditional offer of employment is a job offer that is pending on the successful completion of pre-employment screenings such as a drug test, a skills test or a criminal-record check could be terms of a conditional offer.

If your background reveals a conviction, the employer must consider:

- The type of offense and the time that has passed since it occurred;
- Its connection to the job you are applying for; and
- Your job history, character references, and any evidence of rehabilitation.

Employers can decide not to hire you based on your criminal history **ONLY** if you pose an unacceptable risk to the business or other people.

Exceptions:

Any facility or employer that provides programs, services, or direct care to minors or to vulnerable adults is allowed to conduct a criminal-record check prior to a conditional offer of employment.

LET US HELP!

If you believe an employer has violated your rights, you can file a complaint with our office!

Office of Civil Rights and Wage Enforcement
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Baltimore, Md 21202
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