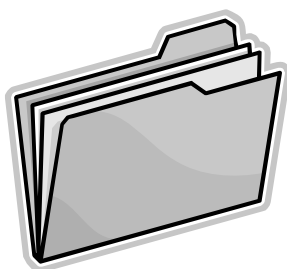


# JUVENILE RECORDS FACT SHEET

## APPLYING FOR COLLEGE OR THE MILITARY

If you were arrested or charged with a juvenile offense and **adjudicated delinquent**, you may have a juvenile record that others can see.



Some juveniles (those charged with more serious offenses) have records that **anyone**, including colleges and military officials, can see.

A **criminal conviction** is not the same as a juvenile adjudication of delinquency. So, if an application asks if you were ever "convicted of a crime" you can answer "no" if you were only ever adjudicated delinquent.

Colleges may ask you whether you have ever been convicted of a crime or adjudicated delinquent. It is important that you answer truthfully. If your record was **expunged**, the college cannot access information about it and you do not need to say that you have a record on the application.



If you were charged with certain drug offenses, you may not be eligible for **financial aid** for college. If the drug offense would have been a felony if committed by an adult, you will not be able to receive food stamps or welfare either.



If you are applying for the army, navy, air force, or marines, your record may be used against you. The **military has access to your record** *even if it has been expunged*. They look at your record to see whether you fit the moral criteria to enlist. If you have a record, you may have to ask for a **moral waiver** to enlist by explaining what the charges were for and how you have changed your behavior since then.