

## **FIELD EXPERIENCES FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION**

Participants in teacher certification programs must complete 50 hours of field experience prior to student teaching. Fieldwork is integrated into the five core courses required in both the Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education programs as follows:

### **FIELD EXPERIENCES FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Participants in teacher certification programs will experience four stages of Field Experience.

#### **Stage 1: Observation**

Students are observers in a variety of education and education-related settings including community-based child care, Head Start, early intervention, and school districts. Observations should occur in a range of school and early learning settings (e.g., urban, suburban, rural; high- and low-performing schools) so that students have a broad experience and learn as much as possible about pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade education learners and pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade education philosophy.

#### **Stage 2: Exploration**

This is an experience in which the candidate works under the teacher's supervision during individual tutorials or with a small group of students. Activities can include reading, math, and other subject matter experiences, tutoring children, small group conversations, outdoor play, and monitoring classroom routines and procedures.

**THE MINIMUM TIME REQUIREMENT FOR STAGES 1 AND 2 COMBINED IS 40 HOURS.**

#### **Stage 3: Pre-student Teaching\***

This is the beginning of student teaching in which candidates teach small groups of students in schools and early learning settings. This field experience is a combination of individual tutorials, small group instruction, and whole class instruction at the selected grade level over the course of the semester. Students work with materials they have prepared and created for classroom instruction.

**THE MINIMUM TIME REQUIREMENT FOR STAGE 3 IS 150 HOURS.**

**THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS IN STAGES 1-3 IS A MINIMUM OF 190.** One placement will be in a B-PK setting.

One placement will be in a K-1 setting.

One placement will be in a grade 2-4 setting.

#### **Stage 4: Student Teaching\***

There is a minimum of 12 weeks full-time student teaching required.

At least one experience during field experience Stage 3 (Pre-student Teaching) or Stage 4 (Student Teaching) will include students with special needs in inclusive settings.

At least one placement during Stage 3 or 4 will be in a public school setting or a PK program sponsored by a school district.

**AN INTAKE SHEET WILL BE COMPLETED FOR M.ED. STUDENTS TO DETERMINE PRIOR FIELD EXPERIENCE HOURS.**

#### **Elementary Education**

EDU 601.21 Theoretical Foundations of Reading Instruction 10 hours

EDU 602.21 Human Growth and Development 5 hours

EDU 604.21 Educational Assessment and Data Driven Decision Making 15 hours

EDU 605.21 Reading in the Content Area 10 hours EDU 606.21 Foundations of Education 10 hours

Fieldwork activities include, but are not limited to, teacher observations, student observations, interviews, working with individual or small groups of students, creating bulletin boards, designing a classroom map, creating management and learning environment checklists, participating in non-teaching duties, analyzing student assessment data and developing instructional plans to accommodate student needs, attending professional meetings, attending professional development workshops, engaging in research, and writing grant proposals.

Those students who have their own classrooms will meet the field experience requirement in their own instructional settings. Students who do not have their own classrooms can meet the requirement by arranging visits to public or private school settings.