

FIELD EXPERIENCE PROGRAM OVERVIEW- LEVELS

Teacher Education candidates expand their knowledge of factors impacting pedagogical decision-making, observation skills, and reflective practices as they participate in field experiences. Field experiences are divided into five levels that provide systematic and sequential experience:

Level I-Exploring Teaching. Teacher candidates/interns become familiar with the roles, responsibilities, and professional relationships of teachers and the multiple dimensions of child development. The teacher candidates' primary responsibility is to observe instructional programs in progress. These observations may include limited participation such as preparing materials or tutoring students.

Level II-Understanding and Analysis of Classroom Management, Motivation, Diversity, and the Teaching-Learning Process. Teacher candidates identify and observe strategies used in effective teaching as they plan, develop, deliver and evaluate instruction. Teacher candidates assume responsibilities such as instructing small groups for entire lessons or parts of lessons for large groups.

Level III-Practice and Feedback –Must Meet all requirements for Block Courses. Teach, assess, and evaluate content-based lesson at the PK-12 site. Teacher candidates/interns enrolled in methods courses participate in Level III experiences. They may assume responsibility for planning curriculum, selecting materials, and instructing entire lessons in sequence.

Level IV-Implementation in the Field–Meet all requirements for clinical experience Residency I and Residency II (Student Teachers/Practitioner Teachers/Interns) and/or participation in approved professional development activities. Teacher candidates/practitioner teachers/Interns have the opportunity to experience in depth the full role and meaning of teaching as they assume daily teaching responsibilities over the course of a full semester. They share responsibility for a full-time teacher's load. Student teachers must conduct entire units of instruction during this experience. Teacher candidates/interns engage in activities that fosters professionalism.

Level V-Post-Baccalaureate Advanced Implementation in the Field – assume responsibility for advanced clinical experiences (educational leaders) in Master's Programs

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