


Educator Preparation Provider/Local Education Agency State Recognized Partnership Agreement

Educator Preparation Provider (EPP)	Trevecca Nazarene University
Local Education Agency (LEA)	Tennessee School for the Blind
Academic Year of Agreement	2023-2024

EPP Contact/Designee	
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Certification (signatures verify partnership)	
EPP Head Administrator: Dr. Suzann Harris	Title: Dean, School of Education
Signature: 	Date: 09/25/2023

LEA Head Administrator: Richard Ray	Title: Director of Schools
Signature: 	Date: 12/7/23

Prompt
1

Describe the strategies and actions in place to co-select clinical educators and collaborate to prepare, evaluate, and support high-quality clinical educators, both provider and school-based, who demonstrate a positive impact on candidates' development and pre-k-12 students. *NOTE: Responses should not exceed one page per prompt.*

Clinical and field experiences take place in a State Recognized Partner District. Trevecca and partners work together to co-select clinical educators at the Initial License Level who meet the following criteria:

- *Three years of teaching experience
- *Recipient of Level 4 or Level 5 teaching on TEAM during the previous school year
- *Recommendation from building level administrator
- *Willingness to serve as a mentor
- *Prior mentor evaluation data

Prior to the student teaching placement, all Cooperating Teachers and University Supervisors are invited to attend an orientation where procedures are reviewed and participants are trained on expectations and current initiatives. In person attendance at the orientation is desired; however attendance is typically low due to busy schedules and the recent pandemic. As a result, the Director of Clinical Placements provides a recorded zoom meeting where handbooks and procedures are reviewed.

Clinical experiences in Advanced Programs are carefully planned to provide candidates with sufficient depth, breadth, diversity, coherence, and duration. Examples of shared responsibility for continuous improvement at this level include but are not limited to, the development of a no-cost on-line professional development opportunity to assist classroom teachers and administrators across the state with the transition to virtual teaching; action-based research projects, and a partnership provided through the Tennessee Department of Education that offers a grant for applicants to receive Special Education and English as a Second Language additional endorsements.

Concerning the evaluation of Cooperating Teachers and University Supervisors, candidates complete an evaluation form for both individuals. This form has been revised based on feedback received during Partnership and Advisory Council Meetings. Data from the Mentor Evaluation form from candidates is collected, analyzed, shared with partners, and considered regarding future placements.

Clinical experiences benefit the candidates, the school/community, and the faculty. This relationship is a mutually beneficial one with the primary focus of developing candidate effectiveness in creating environments to support all students' learning and development.



Prompt
2

Describe the design and implementation of clinical experiences, utilizing various modalities, of sufficient depth, breadth, diversity, coherence, and duration to ensure candidates demonstrate their developing effectiveness and positive impact on pre-k-12 students (For instructional leader programs, ensure how clinical experiences allow opportunities for candidates to practice applications of content knowledge and skills.). *NOTE: Responses should not exceed one page per prompt.*

Trevecca works with partners to design a variety of experiences that support the candidates' development of knowledge, skills, and professional disposition. This design uses various modalities which helps candidates demonstrate their developing effectiveness and positive impact on pre-k-12 students.

To ensure licensure candidates are afforded a variety of experiences certain criteria are outlined and detailed in course syllabi. These experiences include reflective dialogue between university and school-based faculty with candidates prior to, during, and after field experiences or clinical practice. Some methods classes are held on-site in the school building while many professors and the Director of Clinical Placements maintain relationships with building administrators and classroom teachers so that candidates are ensured a quality experience.

Clinical hours are monitored by course professors and the Field Experience Team and reflect diverse classroom/school settings. Candidates' experiences in the field facilitate their development as professional educators by offering opportunities to observe and participate in a variety of ways within a school setting. During field experiences, candidates may observe, tutor, teach, interact with school personnel, students or families, participate in education-related community events, attend school board or professional meetings, or assist teachers or other school professionals. Best practices including literacy strategies and action-based research are embedded in Advanced Programs. Candidates participate in field experiences where they observe and practice strategies as well as collaborate with teachers and administrators. Together, partners and the EPP aim to prepare candidates to design effective curriculum and utilize data for improved student learning field experiences in all programs are assessed by both the Field Experience team and partners with an instrument aligned to the Tennessee Educator Acceleration Model (TEAM) rubric.

Lastly, during Advisory Board meetings partners provide valuable input concerning the development and monitoring of field experiences, curriculum, key assessments, and initiatives within the P-12 environment. Furthermore, partners offer guidance concerning transition points such as admission interviews and exit assessments and provide valuable input at the data retreat.