

Information for Education Specialist Cooperating Teachers

Cooperating Teacher Qualifications

Selection of cooperating teachers is a collaborative process between schools and the University. Cooperating teachers must meet the following requirements:

1. Have at least three years of successful K-12 teaching experience
2. Hold a valid California teaching credential that authorizes them for the subject and services they are providing
3. Be recognized by the site principal as an effective teacher (including literacy instruction in the content areas) who has potential for, or demonstrated competence as, a cooperating teacher
4. Understand the aims, structure, and procedures of the professional education program
5. Be willing to share expertise, materials, and classroom instruction by co-teaching with candidate
6. Demonstrate willingness to work with School of Education faculty via orientation sessions, three-way conferences, and ongoing communication

Cooperating Teacher Responsibilities

Cooperating teachers are dedicated professionals who work closely with university supervisors to help candidates become successful teachers. They provide supervision, guidance, instruction, and coaching to candidates by:

- Introducing candidate to administration, staff, and colleagues; orienting candidate to school activities and culture
- Providing a suitable workspace for candidate in the classroom
- Complete a minimum of 10 hours of initial training and orientation which may include an overview of program curriculum and effective supervision approaches such as cognitive coaching, adult learning therapy, current content-specific pedagogy and instructional practices. Initial training must include:
 - Completing co-teaching and pairs training with candidate
 - Implementing co-teaching strategies
- Knowing and implementing co-teaching strategies
- Completing co-teaching and pairs training with candidate
- Committing to weekly co-planning time with candidate
- Sharing with candidate the use of student assessment data to inform instructional practices
- Modeling effective teaching and management strategies
- Helping candidate make connections between course assignments, classroom practice, and student learning (Candidate is responsible for letting the CT know, in a timely manner, about course assignments that involve the classroom placement.)
- Providing candidates multiple and varied opportunities to teach
- Guiding candidates to develop lesson plans using California's new standards
- Conducting observations and giving candidate clear written and verbal feedback with suggestions for developing his/her teaching
- Discussing with candidate how to make curricula accessible to all students and meet the needs of diverse learners
- Providing a classroom that supports a diverse, democratic, and socially responsible environment

Credential Candidate Responsibilities

The credential candidate is responsible for fulfilling the following requirements in the classroom placement:

Teaching Practicum I

- Participates in the classroom for 4 out of 5 full days a week, starting with the first district workday.
- Shares and follows a "phase in schedule" which outlines weekly responsibilities
- Writes lesson plans or instructional programs for the lessons they teach
- Completes a 5-day practice solo teach
- Has 6-formal observations completed by the university supervisor

Teaching Practicum II

- Participates in the classroom for 4 out of 5 full days a week starting with the first district workday.
- Shares and follows a "phase in schedule" which outlines weekly responsibilities
- Writes lesson plans or instructional programs for the lessons they teach
- Completes a 15-day solo teach IF they have earned an average of 2 on all formal observations
- Has 6-formal observations completed by the university supervisor

Additional information

For your convenience, the Concurrent and Education Specialist Program Handbooks are on our website: www.csuchico.edu/soe. This website provides a detailed description of the program and the requirements of teacher candidates.

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