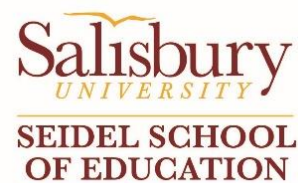


THANK YOU for collaborating with an **Early Childhood Education BLOCK A** teacher candidate



Teacher Candidate Description:

Teacher candidates taking Block A courses are typically juniors, and are in their first semester of the Professional Teacher Education Program. Mentor teachers do not need to be tenured to work with teacher candidates in Block A courses, but should be working with children birth through age four.

Education Courses Your Teacher Candidate Has Taken Previously:

- *ELED 201: Introduction to Teaching*
- *ELED 202: Technology in Education*
- *ECED 251: Collaboration and Cooperation in Early Childhood Communities*
(or completion of an AAT degree)

Education Courses Your Teacher Candidate is Currently Taking:

- *ECED 352: Integrated Reading and Language Arts Birth-4*
- *ELED 301: Diversity in Education*
- *ELED 305: Learning and Assessment for Diverse Classrooms* (optional for AAT transfer students)
- *ELED 317: Integrated Aesthetic Experiences into Teaching and Learning*

Course Requirements:

You should receive information regarding course requirements from their instructors via email or letter. Please collaborate with your teacher candidate to ensure that all course requirements are met by their due dates.

Clinical Practice Requirements:

Teacher candidates enrolled in Block A courses are required to complete **eleven full days** by the end of the semester. This can be obtained by visiting two ½ days or one full day per week. You will be asked to evaluate their performance through an online form.

Suggested Clinical Practice Experiences:

In addition to course requirements, teacher candidates are encouraged to be as involved in the classroom as the mentor teacher will allow. Since significant learning occurs by doing, it is preferred that teacher candidates do more than simply observe in the classroom. They may distribute materials, assist with technology, work on-one-one or with small groups, conduct a read-aloud, present a warm-up or exit ticket activity, etc.

Support for Mentor Teachers:

Course Instructors: The Seidel School of Education highly values partnerships between SU and public schools to prepare future teachers. Course instructors want to hear from, and collaborate with, mentor teachers.

SU's Regional Professional Development Schools Network: Each PDS has a site coordinator on its staff and a University liaison dedicated to the school. These individuals are willing and able to support mentor teachers and teacher candidates throughout this experience.

[Professional Dispositions Clinical Practice Report:](#) If mentor teachers have concerns regarding their teacher candidates' professional dispositions, they are encouraged to complete this form to share this information with the Clinical Practice Coordinator, Paul Gasior.