

GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL FROM STUDENT TEACHING

A. Conduct

1. Teacher Candidates in a teacher education program are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. Teacher Candidates may not engage in acts of behavior which are professionally inappropriate for teachers or which are unlawful for any citizen. If the candidate engages in any of the following acts, it may result in dismissal from student teaching:
 - Teacher Candidates may not date pupils, parents of pupils enrolled in the school, or school or University personnel during the clinical experience. If you feel you are under any pressure to engage in inappropriate social activity, contact your field instructor or the Associate Director of Clinical Studies.
 - Teacher Candidates may not socialize with school pupils except in an official capacity at officially sponsored school events.
 - Teacher Candidates may not drink, smoke, be under the influence or be in the possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs on school property, nor with or in the presence of any school pupil(s).
 - Teacher Candidates may not use sexually explicit, obscene, profane, abusive, or derogatory language on school premises or at school-sponsored events; nor may they suggest access to inappropriate material (e.g., on the Internet).
 - Teacher Candidates may not take pupils off school property unless accompanied by the clinical educator or another full-time employee assigned by the principal.
 - Teacher Candidates may not leave school early (university course exception), be late to school or seminars, or have absences on a consistent basis.
 - Teacher Candidates must not exhibit any behaviors that interfere with the school's learning environment.
2. If at any time the teacher candidate's conduct causes the clinical educator, the principal or the field instructor to determine that their presence in the classroom has become detrimental to the well-being, safety, and/or educational program of the pupils in the class, the teacher candidate will be removed from the school and the placement could be terminated by the University.
3. As a result of any serious violation of the student code of conduct and/or the professional dispositions policy, the teacher candidate could be removed from the school and the University could terminate the placement.

- B. Teacher candidates will be withdrawn from the student teaching placement if 1) the clinical educator decides that the teacher candidate cannot return to the classroom due to inappropriate behavior, 2) the teacher candidate's performance on the summative evaluation is consistently unsatisfactory or 3) there is not satisfactory progress on assignments. **Unsatisfactory** performance on the summative evaluation includes:
- If a score of 2 is assigned to more than half of the indicators within one scoring cluster (including dispositions), the teacher candidate will not pass the placement.
 - A score of 1 for any indicator (including dispositions).

Please note that any score below a 2 in the dispositions section of the Capstone evaluation may result in a disposition hearing (see the official professional dispositions policy on the OCS website at www.ocs.udel.edu).

APPEAL PROCESS

If a teacher candidate does not pass a student teaching placement, then he/she can request a new placement. If the program coordinator, field instructor and the Associate Director of Clinical Studies deny the teacher candidate's request for another placement, then the teacher candidate can appeal the decision, in writing, to the University Council on Teacher Education. The committee will review the appeal and approve or deny the request for a second and final placement.