Educator Preparation Program

Candidate’s Statement of Commitment regarding Dispositions

The Educator Preparation Program is responsible for preparing candidates who have the required knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become effective teachers. Therefore, your certification program will prepare you to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions expected of beginning teachers. Faculty and school personnel will evaluate your demonstration of these dispositions and provide you with feedback about your progress.

Dispositions are defined as the value, commitments, and professional ethics that influence behavior toward students, families, colleagues, and communities and affect student learning, motivation, and development as well as the educator’s own professional growth. Dispositions are guided by beliefs and attitudes related to value such as caring, fairness, honesty, responsibility, and social justice (NCATE, 2001). The dispositions listed below are expected of ASU teacher education candidates in the university classroom and in the schools.

Professionalism

- **Timeliness** is consistent in class, clinicals, and group work, appointments, completion of assignments.
- **Attendance** is consistent at class, clinicals, group meetings, appointments, student teaching and internships.
- **Appearance and dress** matches schools’ dress standards and expectations when candidate are present in the schools.
- **Poise/attitude** reflects proactive planning, preparation, and engagement in classes and in the schools.
- **Initiative** is demonstrated by offering ideas and suggestions to others, setting goals for self-improvement, seeking advice and feedback, and independently searching for, creating, or modifying plans and materials.
- **Ethics** is demonstrated by maintaining confidentiality about EC-12 students and their families, following the Code of Ethics for Texas Educators Integrity, disclosing any unlawful activity upon application to and during the teacher education program that might adversely affect ability to obtain a teaching license, as well as passing criminal background checks and drug screening required by the school systems.

Teaching Qualities

- **Demonstrates organization** through student-centered planning, selection/preparation of materials, time management.
- **Demonstrates flexibility** in modifying ideas, materials, plans, lesson implementation, course assignments.
- **Values diversity** through choosing and creating inclusive materials, lessons, assessments, and creating classroom environments that are inviting for diverse students’ participation and learning; and that provide equitable access to instruction.
Relationships with Others

- **Cooperates** with instructors/school personnel; resolves differences or misunderstandings respectfully and reflectively.
- **Responds productively and respectfully to feedback** from instructors, classroom teachers, mentors, and principals.
- **Establishes rapport** with EC-12 students and their families.
- **Collaborates** with peers, instructors, schools personnel and parents; shares responsibilities, ideas, materials.
- **Provides leadership** to peers, instructors, school personnel and parents; initiates, suggests, contributes.
- **Affirms** perspective and contributions of diverse students, teachers, families, instructors, and peers.

Professional Development

- **Engages in reflection** by using various forms of feedback about candidates’ teaching effectiveness, including assessment data showing impact on EC-12 students’ learning.
- **Engages in life-long learning** through reading, observing, assessing, and participating in organizations.
- **Promotes success for all students** through best practices, informative assessments, and inclusive environments.
- **Demonstrates involvement** with parents, families, school personnel, and community agencies on behalf of students.

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I have read the dispositions above. I agree that dispositions are important to being an effective, professional teacher. I am committed to both growth and excellence in demonstrating these dispositions. I understand that my progress in the teacher education program depends upon successful demonstration of these dispositions.

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(Adapted from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte)