Experience with Learners

Criteria for 150 Hours of Contact with Children
Required for Admission to the Teacher Education Program

Students applying to the Teacher Education Program must complete 150 hours of contact time with children grades PK-12. These hours are in addition to any classroom field experience hours that are required as part of the required course work in the Education major or minor. A minimum of 100 hours of documented experience are required and 50 hours of related experience may be submitted, for a total of 150 hours. Students are encouraged to seek out opportunities to work with diverse learners. Diverse populations are defined broadly to indicate differences from the group with which one identifies. These differences may be in terms of race, ethnicity, ability and socioeconomic status. Experiences with individuals from different cultures provide the kind of background that will enhance students’ knowledge, skills and dispositions as they progress through their educational program.

Use template 1.3 in the Phase One Portfolio directions as verification of your total hours of experience. All hours must have been completed within the past seven years. Examples of each are as follows:

100 hours (minimum) of paid or volunteer experience may be accumulated through participation in facilities such as schools, agencies, centers or organizations. Some possible examples include: instructional assistant, substitute teaching, daycare teacher, classroom volunteer, coaching, camp counselor, after-school tutoring, Sunday school teacher, etc. The documentation should include experience descriptions, dates of involvement, total number of hours, a contact person/persons and a phone number/numbers.

50 hours of related experiences should include descriptions and dates relevant to the role of teacher not associated or attached to an educational facility. Some examples include: Big Brothers/Big Sisters, childcare, job related training, parenting, group leader, etc.

* These hours must have been completed within the past seven years*