

March 19, 2020

Dear Student Teacher,

I hope this message finds you well. As you are aware, all Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania public and private schools are closed March 16 through March 27, 2020. I am writing to provide an update and a requirement for your student teaching experience at the University of Delaware.

UPDATE

The Delaware Department of Education has confirmed that teacher candidates whose placement length has been adjusted in response to conditions relating to coronavirus/COVID-19 will be eligible for institutional recommendation for certification if they have satisfied all other requirements. In other words, though you may not complete the required 10 weeks or 200 hours of student teaching, your time spent thus far (4.5 weeks this semester) will count toward eligibility. This means that if you satisfy all of your requirements, except for student teaching hours in the field, you will:

- 1) Graduate on time
- 2) Be eligible for certification

To satisfy other requirements, you must:

- 1) Complete all of your coursework and graduate from a teacher preparation program,
- 2) Obtain passing scores on a content readiness exam (Praxis Subject Assessment),
- 3) Obtain passing scores on a performance assessment (edTPA or PPAT)

While this is not the experience we intended for you, being a teacher means adapting to all kinds of situations to meet your students' needs. We encourage you to use the resources we are providing, plus your own creative thinking, to continue to meet students' needs to the best of your ability. We encourage you to support your clinical educators during this time, too. In fact, school districts have asked us if they can continue to count on your support.

The University Center for Teaching and Learning (CTAL) provides a variety of resources to help with student learning. Please visit the [CTAL webpage](#) for more information. We are currently compiling additional resources from our programs, which we will share with you soon.

We are also exploring contingencies for those of you who need to complete a performance assessment (edTPA or PPAT) and/or a content readiness exam (Praxis). Check the [OCS website](#) for updates.

REQUIREMENT

There are many ways that you can continue to support your clinical educator and your PK-12 students remotely. **If you have not already contacted your clinical educator to ask how you can help, please do so.** Additionally, provide suggestions for how you think you can help (e.g., grading papers, conducting Zoom lessons, creating assignments, working with small groups electronically, etc.).

Before schools closed, many PK-12 students were sent home with work packets and/or instructions for online assignments. However, the type of work/assignments vary greatly by classroom. Furthermore, some children do not have access to the internet. Contact your UD program coordinator and your field instructor to discuss ways you can continue to support your clinical educator and your students.

We recognize that your ability to participate in instructional activities will vary from classroom to classroom. It is our intention to do all we can to help you feel prepared to teach. Please use the attached log to document your

daily activities with your clinical educator and with students in your classroom. You will submit the log every other Friday to your Field Instructor. This information will help us provide appropriate support for the instructional activities you are able to perform.

FURTHER INFORMATION

We recognize that these circumstances are unprecedented. Please continue to check your email every day for updates from clinical educators, field instructors, program coordinators, and OCS directors. You should also check the [OCS website](#) regularly for updates. The latest UD information on Coronavirus (COVID-19) updates can be found here: www.udel.edu/coronavirus.

If you are an early childhood education student, an elementary education student, or a 4+1 student and you have questions, please contact Jamie Bailey at jamierb@udel.edu. If you are a secondary education student (including all K-12 music education students) and you have questions, please contact Marie Peters at mlpeters@udel.edu.