

March 27, 2020

Good afternoon, student teachers,

I know it must be confusing and upsetting to have your school year interrupted in this way. Rest assured that you are not alone, and we will get through this together. I want to send you some information on institutional recommendation requirements, assessments, performance assessments and other information pertinent to certification.

While we are all working and studying remotely, here are some things you can do to stay on track:

1. Meet with your certification advisor. (More info below)
2. Review required tests and prepare for them. All required Delaware Praxis tests can be found here: <https://www.ets.org/praxis/de/requirements/>.
 - a. There are preparation materials on each individual test page. Take some practice tests.
 - b. Register for your exams at a date after the testing centers reopen.
 - c. Reschedule any scheduled assessments that have been canceled.

I have listed information regarding specific requirements below. We will communicate solutions as quickly as we are able. Please know this may take some time.

Please remember that we are here to support you in any way we can. If you are worried, feel free to email me and I am happy to discuss your concerns.

Stay safe. We miss you all already!

Tory

Certification Advising Appointments

What a great time to meet with your favorite certification advisor! Virtual appointments are still available daily and can be scheduled here: <http://www.teachered.udel.edu/meet-with-certification-officer/>.

Put yourself on my schedule and we can go over your requirements for institutional recommendation and state certification wherever you plan to teach after graduation. **All appointments will be conducted via Zoom.** I will send you a Zoom invitation before our scheduled meeting time. If you are not able to meet via Zoom, please contact me via email to make other arrangements.

Performance Assessments

We are aware that many of you do not have the video, student work and evidence necessary to complete your performance assessment. Both Educational Testing Service (PPAT) and Pearson (edTPA) are working diligently to come up with solutions to help the thousands of student teachers that have been removed from placements. We are continuing to work to determine the best plan for performance assessment completion and will communicate those plans with you as soon as possible.

Praxis Core/Subject Assessments

All testing centers run by Educational Testing Service are currently closed until at least April 16. If you have a Praxis assessment that is scheduled at an independently run testing center in the next month, please review the list and contact the testing center to confirm availability. The list of those centers can be found here: <https://www.ets.org/s/cv/rsc/pdf/praxis-test-center-closures.pdf>.

University of Delaware Computer-Based Testing Center is currently closed. Educational Testing Service will waive any fees involved in rescheduling your exam. Don't panic. Remember, thousands of students, nationally, are in the same boat. Educational Testing Service information on closures and cancellations can be found here:

<https://www.ets.org/s/cv/praxis/the-americas/>

Institutional Recommendation:

We are working with the State of Delaware to determine necessary adjustments to requirements for institutional recommendation for students graduating spring 2020. While I cannot give you specific answers at this time, please be reassured that ***you are one of thousands of students in this situation.*** The State of Delaware, the University of Delaware, and state Departments of Education throughout the country are aware that classes at universities nationwide have been suspended. If you have been paying attention when I come to visit your classes, you will remember that Delaware participates in a nationwide agreement that allows you to take the teacher preparation you receive at University of Delaware and become certified (with possible additional requirements) in all 50 states. Because of all of the moving parts in this situation, I anticipate it being weeks before we have clear answers. That said, I will continue to communicate with you as I know more. Just remember, there are hundreds of staff and faculty at UD working to ensure you graduate on time and ready to enter the workforce.