

Memorandum of Agreement

MERCER County Schools Board of Education Campbellsville University School of Education

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), dated October 23, 2024 is for the purpose of creating an Option 9 IECE program in partnership between the MERCER County Schools Board of Education and the Campbellsville University School of Education in accordance with 16 KAR 9:110 and KRS 161.048. The MOA beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2027 hereby contains the following provisions.

- The new Option 9 IECE program called MERCER County Schools/Campbellsville University Option 9 IECE Program will be exclusively available to classified employees who work in the MERCER County School District. Candidates will complete the EPSB approved IECE Certification Program for Campbellsville University. Candidates who successfully complete the program and pass the licensure exams will earn a bachelor's degree and certification to teach students aged birth to kindergarten in three years.

- **All candidates shall meet the admission requirements established in 16 KAR 5:020.** Option 9 candidates will meet the admission requirements for an undergraduate, initial certification educator preparation program. [16 KAR 5:020, Section 1(2)]:

* A cumulative grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale; or a grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.0 scale on the last 30 hours of credit completed.

* Successful completion of one or a combination of the following assessments of basic knowledge:

ACT with a composite score of 22 or the corresponding minimum scores:

- Reading: 20
- Writing: 18
- Math: 19

Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (CASE):

- Reading (5713): 156
- Writing (5723): 162
- Mathematics (5733): 150

- Campbellsville University will offer all 120 credit hours of coursework online. Synchronous education courses will be offered in the evenings during the regular academic year. Asynchronous general education courses will be offered not only during the regular academic year, but also during the January and May terms, and during three summer terms. Candidates will be required to take classes year-round in order to complete the 120 hours within a three-year time period. Candidates will also be required to complete the same 200 field experience hours that traditional candidates complete as per 16 KAR 5:040 within the first two years of residency. MERCER County Schools will maintain electronic records of field experiences that confirm that all residents have fulfilled the field experience requirements and share these records with the Campbellsville University School of Education.

- In addition to admitted candidates signing the professional code of ethics and practicing in an ethical manner according to the code of ethics, candidates will receive training on the professional code of ethics through coursework provided by Campbellsville University and professional development provided by MERCER County Schools.
- MERCER County Schools will employ candidates admitted to the program either part time or full time for three years in a classified position. During the third year, residency, the candidate will be employed full time in the area of certification sought. The resident will not have responsibility for supervision or instruction of students without the direct supervision of a certified educator.
- During the year-long residency, a MERCER County cooperative teacher and CU university supervisor will follow the EPSB approved Campbellsville University protocols for observing and evaluating student teachers including a minimum of four observations. MERCER County Schools will maintain electronic records that confirm that all third-year residents meet the student teaching requirements and will share them with the Campbellsville University School of Education.
- If MERCER County Schools ends the program, they will not accept new candidates but will continue the partnership until the candidates currently in the program complete the program or are no longer employed by MERCER County Schools.
- This program is offered with the realization that MERCER County Schools is not obligated to offer employment as an IECE teacher to a candidate upon program completion and/or the candidate may choose to seek employment outside of the district upon completion of the program.
- This program will be under the immediate supervision of the Dean of the School of Education, Dr. Robin Magruder, (270) 789-5139, rlmagruder@campbellsville.edu or their successor.

Hereby agreed upon by,

MERCER County Superintendent Date: _____

MERCER County Board of Education Chair Date: _____

Campbellsville University President Date: _____