

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Waiver:

16 KAR 5:040. Request to Waive Student Teacher Days Due to District School Closures for the University of the Cumberlands Students

Action Question:

Should the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approve the request to waive student teaching days for the student teachers listed by the University of the Cumberlands due to district closures during the Spring 2025 term?

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 5:040

History/Background:

Existing Policy: 16 KAR 5:040, Section 5 provides that each educator preparation provider (EPP) shall provide a full professional semester to include a period of student teaching for a minimum of seventy (70) full days, or its equivalent, in instructional settings that correspond to the grade levels and content areas of the student teacher's certification program.

Summary: District closures due to severe weather have made it extremely difficult for some student teachers from the University of the Cumberlands to complete the required seventy (70) full days in instructional settings before the close of the Spring 2025 higher education academic semester. District closures due to severe weather are out of the control of the student teachers and the EPP; however, both have made good faith efforts to include supplemental instruction while completing as many hours as possible during the semester. The University of the Cumberlands has submitted a list of two (2) student teachers that were affected and is requesting that five (5) days of student teaching be waived for each.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

Contact Person:

Brandon Harrod, Program Coordinator
Division of Educator Preparation and Certification
Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness
(502) 564-4606
Email: brandon.harrod@education.ky.gov