

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Information Item:

Amendment to 16 KAR 5:040. Admission, placement, and supervision in student teaching.

Rationale:

The proposed amendment updates the regulation to allow a teacher with less than three years of experience to serve as a cooperating teacher; remove the requirement for the student teaching experience to including “[e]ngagement with...[s]tudents from...different ethnic or cultural groups”; permit up to two (2) of the four (4) observations of student teachers to be done remotely; clarify that dual certification in elementary and special education requires student teaching in an elementary placement as well as a middle or high school placement; and, permit an educator preparation provider to allow experience as an emergency certified substitute teacher to count towards the student teacher placement.

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

KRS 13A, 161.020, 161.028, 161.030, 161.042

History/Background:

Existing Policy: This administrative regulation establishes the standards for admission, placement, and supervision in student teaching.

Summary: The amendment to 16 KAR 5:040 provides for increased flexibility as it allows more individuals to serve as cooperating teachers, specifically teachers with less than three years of experience under certain conditions. Further, the amendment allows for experience as an emergency certified substitute teacher to count towards the student teacher placement.

The amendment also adds clarity to the regulation, particularly around the use of remote observations during the student teacher placement as well as on balancing placements for candidates seeking dual certification in elementary and special education. This latter change is intended to ensure all students, regardless of certification pursued, are completing two student teacher placements. The need for two placements split between elementary school and middle or high school remains, particularly in light of literacy and numeracy requirements. The EPSB will continue to have a waiver process in place to address potential situations where only one placement can be completed; however, under this regulation, that will continue to be the exception rather than the rule.

A copy of the draft amendment is included for EPSB review.

Budget Impact: There is no budgetary impact.

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