



Student Teaching Placement Procedures

The teacher education programs at Bloomsburg University have established critical guidelines to ensure program integrity and to provide quality educational experiences for all students enrolled in teacher preparation programs. Bloomsburg University is closely affiliated with public school districts in nine surrounding counties and select counties outside this immediate region. With their cooperation, the University is able to request placement of student teachers within their elementary, middle and secondary schools. The Bloomsburg University Coordinators of Student Teaching are solely responsible for placement of student teachers. The following guidelines for student teaching placement include:

- 1) Two semesters prior to student teaching, all candidates must attend a mandatory student teaching advisement meeting and submit a student teaching application to the Coordinators of Student Teaching. Failure to comply will jeopardize the timely placement of the candidate or delay the candidate's student teaching semester.
- 2) Under no circumstance will a request for placement be made for any candidate who has not met all prerequisites for student teaching. Eligibility requirements are outlined in [PRP 3810](#). All clearances, tuberculosis documentation and professional liability insurance must be kept current prior to and throughout student teaching. Candidates without current clearances will not have requests processed and/or will be removed from student teaching.
- 3) Candidates may not, under any circumstance, contact school personnel to arrange their placement. University and school personnel consider this to be unprofessional behavior. Failure to comply with this guideline may jeopardize the candidate's student teaching placement.
- 4) The Coordinators of Student Teaching within the College of Education request the teaching sites believed to best continue each candidate's professional development. Due to limited field sites, requests to change confirmed student teaching placements may delay the candidate's student teaching semester. The Coordinators are responsible to ensure that each placement will meet licensure requirements.

- 5) The Coordinators of Student Teaching request and place candidates in a service area defined as approximately 30-40 miles from Bloomsburg University. School districts accepting candidates must have signed affiliation agreements with Bloomsburg University for a placement to occur. Select programs (see department guidelines) will make requests of school districts to secure placements outside this region. There is no guarantee the candidate will be accommodated when requesting such a placement. All placements are based on availability and efficiency of qualified supervision.
- 6) A candidate will not be placed in a school district in which s/he lives, has attended, has been employed, has had relatives/personal friends employed, or currently has children enrolled. For additional information, consult the Coordinator of Student Teaching for the program of study in which the candidate is enrolled.
- 7) All placements are contingent upon the availability of cooperating teachers. Cooperating teachers must be approved by the school district and meet Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) requirements for length of tenure/certification held. Financial hardship does not solely constitute a compelling reason to secure or alter a student teaching placement. Out-of-state student teaching placements are not an option.
- 8) Candidates are expected to provide their own transportation and housing during student teaching.
- 9) Student Teaching marks a significant transition point in becoming a professional educator. Candidates are expected to demonstrate the dispositions and professional behaviors identified in the Unit's Conceptual Framework. Those who have applied to student teach must behave in an ethical and professional manner at all times. This expectation includes the period of time during which placements are being made. Satisfactory interpersonal behavior and professional performance in classes, meetings, and advisement sessions are required. Failure to comply with this guideline may negatively impact the candidate's student teaching placement.

Additional information may be provided by the Student Teaching Coordinator or Department Chairperson in the candidate's program of study.