

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FIELD EXPERIENCE AND STUDENT TEACHING PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Field experiences and student teaching are critical and required components of the Early Childhood Education teacher education program. In order to be prepared for and accepted into field placements working with children the requirements listed below must be met by the student.

The Office of Clinical Studies (OCS) can assist you with the following clearances and questions about your early field experiences. The OCS website (www.ocs.udel.edu) describes the services that they provide and information related to field experiences. The OCS is located at 200 Academy Street, Newark, DE 19716. You can email questions to the OCS at clinicalstudies@udel.edu or call (302) 831-6778.

1. TB (PPD or Mantoux) Clearance: In order to comply with state regulations, students must show written proof of a negative PPD (Mantoux) Tuberculin Test before working in the schools. Students may have the test administered by their physician, a public health clinic, or at Student Health Services on campus. There is a small fee to students who have this service performed at SHS. If you use an off campus site, the results must be submitted to Student Health Services so that the Office of Clinical Studies can clear you for your field experiences. All students must have a negative TB test within three years of their placements in the field. Documentation is filed by Student Health Services or by the student with the Office of Clinical Studies and copies given to the HDFS 224 instructor and to the school in which student is placed. Student retains a copy. More information about this requirement will be given to students when they take HDFS 224 during their sophomore year. If a student transfers credit for HDFS 224, verification must still be filed by Student Health Services or by the student with the Office of Clinical Studies and presented to the course instructor and school in the first scheduled field placement.

2. Praxis Core: Student provides evidence of passing scores for the Praxis Core test. Student should have scores sent to Delaware Center for Teacher Education. (See <http://www.teachered.udel.edu/students> for information about the test, passing scores and sending scores to UD). Student must successfully complete the test for entrance into HDFS 412 (junior-level course). However, students are urged to complete this requirement prior to or during their freshman year.

3. Criminal Background Clearance: Prior to all field experiences, students will need to annually complete a federal criminal background check at the Delaware State Police offices at Troop 2 or Troop 3. The federal criminal background check takes 6-8 weeks to process. All education majors must complete their background check between April 1st and May 10th to be cleared for courses with field experiences for the next academic year. Information about securing a federal background check in the State of Delaware and the online background check for incoming freshmen is available online at the Office of Clinical Studies website at <http://www.ocs.udel.edu/fingerprinting>. Two sets of prints will be taken and these prints will be used to obtain criminal history information from the State Bureau of Investigation and the FBI, as well as the child abuse registry and the adult abuse registry. You must present picture identification and proof of your social security number. Allow six to eight weeks for processing. Clearance must be gained before entrance into any field experience course, beginning with a placement in the Laboratory Preschool for HDFS 224 and is also required for student teaching.

The contact office for clearances is the Office of Clinical Studies (302-831-3000). You must confirm that the police will mail the results directly to the Office of Clinical Studies.

5. Appropriate Dress: Students in field placements must wear clothing that is professional and modest. This would exclude short shorts, tube or tank tops, mini-skirts, see-through shirts, exposed midriffs (belly or back), hats, baseball caps, exposed tattoos or undergarments, or excessive cologne/jewelry. Avoid excessively tight clothes or high-heeled shoes. Be sure that you are well groomed. More information about appropriate dress may be provided prior to each field experience.

6. First Aid and CPR Training: Students are encouraged to complete First Aid and CPR training within two years of starting student teaching.

Field placements could begin as early as the freshman year. One of the goals of the Early Childhood Education program is to prepare students to work with children and families in diverse settings. Not all required field experience placements are within walking distance or on University of Delaware bus routes. Students are responsible for providing their own transportation.

I have read and accept the Early Childhood Education major requirements.

Signature

Date