

Partnership Agreement

Between

**The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of
Valdosta State University**

And

Lincoln County School District, 423 Metasville Road, Lincolnton, GA 30817.

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of Valdosta State University through its Dewar College of Education and Human Services (hereinafter "Dewar College of Education and Human Services") and Lincoln County School District located in Lincolnton, GA agree to enter into this Partnership Agreement for the establishment and maintenance of a mutually beneficial partnership. The parties agree that while we recognize that each partnership is unique, the following common principles are intended to facilitate all work associated with this agreement:

Shared purpose in collaborating for improved learning for all stakeholders; focusing on continuous school/system/agency improvement and student achievement.

Reciprocity whereby the school/system/agency and program provider equally benefit from having candidates and program faculty participate in the school/system/agency environment through mutually valuable opportunities such as preparation of candidates, ongoing professional development for all educators, research and inquiry into improving practice, and other functions as agreed upon by the school/agency and program provider.

This agreement will be reviewed five years from the signature year. Amendments or revisions of this partnership agreement must be approved in writing by the designated school administrator and the dean of the college. Either party (the school or Dewar College of Education and Human Services) may request a review of or withdraw from participation in this agreement at any time.

Any approved and signed addenda to this partnership agreement are attached.

The undersigned accept the terms of this agreement as presented herein:

David P. Hight Superintendent
Administrator, School/System/Agency Title

Date: 11/17/2020

Administrator, School/System/Agency Title

Date: _____

Bernard Oliver
Dr. Bernard Oliver
Dean, Dewar College of Education and Human Services

Date: 1/23/20

Robert T. Smith
Dr. Robert T. Smith
Provost and V.P. of Academic Affairs, Valdosta State University

Date: 1/30/20

Please mail the signed agreement to: Dewar College of Education and Human Services, Office of the Dean 1500 N. Patterson St. Valdosta, GA 31698-0085

Approved as to form
Valdosta State University
Office of Legal Affairs
E. Lee Davis, Chief Legal Affairs Officer
2020.01.27

FIELD EXPERIENCE AND CLINICAL PRACTICE AGREEMENT

Addendum

to

P-12 School Partnership Agreement

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of Valdosta State University through its Dewart College of Education and Human Services (hereinafter "COHHS") and Lincoln County Elementary (hereinafter "P-12") located in Lincoln, GA 30817 agree to the following:

A. Placements of Students

COHHS students presenting themselves at the school for any of the activities identified below will do so only upon written request of the COHHS Office of Clinical Experiences and Certification. The type of work in which the university students are to engage while at the partner school, the duration of the placement, and the school personnel under whose guidance the work is to be done will be agreed upon by the associated COHHS academic program in cooperation with the Office of Clinical Experiences and Certification and the P-12 partner school administrator. Students are not to begin placements without the written approval of the appropriate school administrator and the COHHS Office of Clinical Experiences and Certification.

B. Criminal Background Checks

The P-12 and/or school system may request a current criminal background check for each COHHS student who is scheduled to participate in observation, field experience, student teaching/internship, and/or graduate field work. Based on the results of the criminal background check, the school and/or school system may then decide whether or not to allow the COHHS student to participate in the requested experience.

C. Observations

COHHS students enrolled in educator preparation programs will be permitted to observe in P-12 classrooms as well as observe other activities within the school as agreed upon by the school and the COHHS. Necessary adjustments in the time and place of observations in the schools may be made by the appropriate school administrator and the COHHS program personnel to meet specific conditions in the school.

D. Field Experiences

COHHS students enrolled in educator preparation programs may be assigned to specific P-12 teachers or other school professionals for field experiences in settings that provide them with opportunities to observe, practice, and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions delineated in institutional, state, and national education standards. Emphasis will be placed on experiences that provide active professional practice or demonstration and that include substantive work with P-12 students or P-12 personnel as appropriate for the areas in which the students are being prepared.

E. Student Teaching/Internships (Clinical Practices)

COHHS students enrolled in educator preparation programs will be engaged in student teaching or an internship in appropriate placements as approved by the appropriate school administrator, P-12 mentor

a. Provide evidence of such insurance upon request and provide 30 days prior written notice

Each party further agrees that, with respect to insurance coverage maintained by it, it will:

Each party agrees to maintain commercial general liability insurance, and teacher professional liability, with limits not less than \$1 million per occurrence and \$3 million annual aggregate. The COHHS will inform all its participating students of the P-12's requirement that they must procure and maintain throughout the Field Experience and Clinical Practice professional liability insurance with limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$3,000,000 annual aggregate by a carrier satisfactory to the P-12 and COHHS, and covering their activities at the P-12, and to provide evidence of such insurance to the P-12 prior to participation in any Field Experience and Clinical Practice. COHHS faculty members will be provided professional liability coverage pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Georgia Tort Claims Act (O.C.G.A. §50-21-20 et seq.). The COHHS will provide Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage for its participating faculty members. However, the COHHS will not provide Workers' Compensation Insurance or other insurance coverage for its students. This paragraph will survive the termination of this MOU.

Each party agrees to maintain general liability insurance, and teacher professional liability, with limits not less than \$1 million per occurrence and \$3 million annual aggregate. The COHHS will inform all its participating students of the P-12's requirement that they must procure and maintain throughout the Field Experience and Clinical Practice professional liability insurance with limits of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$3,000,000 annual aggregate by a carrier satisfactory to the P-12 and COHHS, and covering their activities at the P-12, and to provide evidence of such insurance to the P-12 prior to participation in any Field Experience and Clinical Practice. COHHS faculty members will be provided professional liability coverage pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Georgia Tort Claims Act (O.C.G.A. §50-21-20 et seq.). The COHHS will provide Workers' Compensation Insurance coverage for its participating faculty members. However, the COHHS will not provide Workers' Compensation Insurance or other insurance coverage for its students. This paragraph will survive the termination of this MOU.

1. Each party agrees that no student in the education program(s) will be deemed to be an employee of the P-12 nor will the P-12 be liable for the payment of any wage, salary, or compensation of any kind for service provided by the students. Further, no student will be covered under the P-12's Workers' Compensation, Social Security, or Unemployment Compensation programs.

H. Both COHHS and P-12 Responsibilities

The supervision of all COHHS student experiences in the P-12 schools will be performed cooperatively by appropriate members of the school personnel and the COHHS program personnel. It is expressly understood that no student will be assigned for any experience without provision for guidance of his or her activities by a member of the COHHS department in which the student is being prepared. Any onsite activities in which the COHHS students participate will follow the guidelines specified by the COHHS with the approval of the P-12 partner school administrator.

G. Supervision

COHHS students enrolled in graduate educator preparation programs will be permitted to carry out assigned field experiences and to provide special services for groups and individual P-12 students by mutual agreement between the appropriate school administrator and COHHS program personnel.

F. Graduate Field Experiences, Special Field Studies, and Research Projects

Teachers to whom the COHHS students are to be assigned, and the appropriate COHHS program personnel, Student teachers or interns will be supervised by the designated P-12 personnel, designated school administrators, and designated university supervisors. As agreed upon by the P-12 mentor teacher and university supervisor, the mentor teacher will delegate gradually increasing responsibilities to the student teacher or intern as the capacity to carry such responsibilities is demonstrated.

