

In the elementary grades it is the usual practice to assign a student teacher to one cooperating teacher and grade level for the entire student teaching period. (This does not preclude a second experience in another classroom for a period of time which is arranged by the cooperating teacher.) In the secondary school the subjects exert considerable influence upon the student teacher's schedule, and sometimes more than one cooperating teacher will work with the student. For those students in a K-12 program there will be a cooperating teacher(s) at each level of their student teaching. In special education, one cooperating teacher may supervise the entire K-12 experience, or supervision may be divided between an elementary level cooperating teacher and a secondary level cooperating teacher. However, in any case, the student teacher should have a schedule of preparation no greater than a regular teacher's teaching load.

During the student teaching semester the university supervisor will make a minimum of 5 on-site visits to each student teacher.

If the placement is deemed unsatisfactory by joint counsel with the student teacher, cooperating teacher, principal, and supervising teacher, reassignment will be made.

Clinical Field Experience Policy and Procedures for Alternative Student Teaching Experience

**Applicable to Undergraduate Program

The importance of a quality student teaching experience is crucial for successful transition into the role of a professional teacher. As such, Doane University's Clinical Field Experience Committee will carefully review district-proposed alternative student teaching arrangements in conjunction with student factors to determine whether or not the student will be granted permission for the proposed role.

Additional considerations are necessary if a district would like to hire an undergraduate student who is or will be student teaching. Refer to Appendix E for **Policy and Procedures for Alternative Student Teaching Experience**.

Length of Student Teaching Assignment

Doane requires a student teaching experience of at least a full-day for one semester (at least 14 – 16 weeks)* for secondary majors. A minimum of ten weeks** full-day is required for each experience of two field endorsements OR field endorsement with a subject endorsement. (e.g. Two field endorsements: Elementary/Special Education OR field/subject: Elementary/Early Childhood)

* Secondary student teachers teach for 14 – 16 weeks beginning in the fall to coincide with each school systems starting dates and end in December (typically coincides with holiday break).

Orientation

Orientation to the student teaching assignment includes an introductory meeting with the cooperating teacher. The introductory meeting is often preceded by a dinner in which the cooperating teacher, student teacher, Doane University supervisor attend. This provides a relaxed atmosphere in which the student teacher is most familiar with the surroundings. It also gives the cooperating teacher an appreciation of the Doane environment and teaching resources. The introductory meeting may also be