

## **Policies, practices, and data on candidate placement in field experiences and clinical practice**

The Office of Field Placement (OFP) coordinates placements in local schools with assistance from unit faculty and partner school administrators. This office is meant to be the clearinghouse through which all placements flow. The OFP maintains constant communication with district administrators and building principals as well as unit faculty to ensure placements are working for all parties.

### **Observations**

During the summer preceding each school year, the OFP secures schools for undergraduate courses to utilize for classroom observations. Twelve courses include observation components and agreements are made with 51 schools to host student observers. Once partnerships are established with local schools, unit faculty work with building principals to place candidates in individual classrooms for observation.

### **Internships**

In February of each year, the placement process for secondary education candidates begins. Partner schools are selected and asked to sign a memorandum of understanding indicating that they agree to host student teaching interns for the following school year. Building principals are asked to nominate teachers to be mentor teachers. Once the nominations are received, the OFP works with unit faculty to select mentor teachers for the upcoming year. After mentor teachers are selected, the OFP places each student in three different schools with each rotation lasting about 11 weeks. Secondary education candidates are placed at 28 schools in 15 local districts. The OFP ensures that at least one placement is in a rural school district. The OFP also considers the diversity of each school to encounter a variety of students throughout their placements. Once the initial placements are made, building principals and district administrators have the opportunity to comment on the placements and request changes. After changes have been made, principals are notified of the final placements and mentor teachers are notified of their placements for the year. By July 1, the placements are complete and students are notified. If changes need to be made throughout the year, the OFP works closely with unit faculty and building principals to ensure placements are satisfactory for everyone.

The childhood education department places interns at 12 schools in three districts each year. Candidates are placed at the same elementary school for the entire year and have three different grade level placements during that time. At least one placement allows candidates to experience a non-traditional setting (for example, ESL classroom or with a literacy coach). Unit faculty and building principals work cooperatively to place candidates at the selected schools. Typically, each school hosts between 6-12 interns each year.

Candidates in physical education, music education, art education, agricultural education, and career and technical education complete internships that range from 6-16 weeks. Each program has a coordinator (a unit faculty member) who works with the OFP and school partners to make placement arrangements.

### **School Partners for Candidate Observations and Internships**

The following schools host candidates for observations and internships.

#### Bentonville School District

Apple Glen Elementary School  
Centerton Gamble Elementary School  
Mary Mae Jones Elementary School  
Sugar Creek Elementary School  
Thomas Jefferson Elementary School  
Old High Middle School  
Lincoln Junior High School  
Washington Junior High School  
Bentonville High School

#### Decatur School District

Decatur Middle School

#### Elkins School District

Elkins High School

#### Farmington School District

Williams Elementary School  
Folsom Elementary School  
Randall G. Lynch Middle School  
Farmington High School

#### Fayetteville School District

Asbell Elementary School  
Butterfield Trail Elementary School  
Happy Hollow Elementary School  
Holcomb Elementary School  
Owl Creek School  
Root Elementary School  
Vandergriff Elementary School  
Washington Elementary School  
Holt Middle School  
McNair Middle School  
Ramay Junior High  
Woodland Junior High School  
Fayetteville High School

#### Gentry School District

Gentry Middle School  
Gentry High School

#### Gravette School District

Gravette Middle School  
Gravette High School

#### Greenland School District

Greenland Elementary School  
Greenland Middle School  
Greenland High School

#### Huntsville School District

Huntsville Middle School  
Huntsville High School

#### Lincoln School District

Lincoln High School

#### Mountainburg School District

Mountainburg High School

#### Prairie Grove School District

Prairie Grove Elementary School  
Prairie Grove Intermediate School  
Prairie Grove Middle School  
Prairie Grove High School

#### Pea Ridge School District

Pea Ridge Middle School  
Pea Ridge High School

#### Rogers School District

Eastside Elementary School

Mathias Elementary School  
Elmwood Middle School  
Kirksey Middle School  
Lingle Middle School  
Oakdale Middle School  
Heritage High School  
Rogers High School

Siloam Springs School District  
Siloam Springs Middle School  
Siloam Springs High School

Springdale School District  
Bayyari Elementary School  
Elmdale Elementary School  
George Elementary School  
Harp Elementary School  
Jones Elementary School  
Parson Hills Elementary School

Shaw Elementary School  
Smith Elementary School  
Turnbow Elementary School  
Tyson Elementary School  
Walker Elementary School  
Young Elementary School  
Hellstern Middle School  
J.O. Kelly Middle School  
Tyson Middle School  
Central Junior High School  
George Junior High School  
Southwest Junior High School  
Har-Ber High School  
Springdale High School

West Fork School District  
West Fork Elementary School  
West Fork Middle School  
West Fork High School