

# HANNIBAL-LAGRANGE UNIVERSITY

## STUDENT TEACHING FOR CANDIDATES EMPLOYED AS TEACHING ASSISTANTS

*(A) Programs having preservice teacher education students who have been employed in public or accredited nonpublic schools for at least two (2) years as teacher assistants shall accept such experiences in lieu of the conventional student teaching requirement if the following conditions are met:*

- 1. The preservice student's experience as a teacher assistant was concurrent with the student's participation in the professional education program and in the same content area and grade range for which the student is seeking certification;*
- 2. The teacher assistant shall have conducted teaching activities comparable to those required for other preservice education students in conventional student teaching placements and demonstrating similar competencies;*
- 3. The teacher with whom the teacher assistant served meets the qualifications for a cooperating teacher, as defined in the "Clinical Experience Requirements for Candidates in Professional Education Programs" rule 5 CSR 20-400.330 and MoSPE Standards (<https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/MoSPE20-400440OrderChanges11-2012.pdf>).*
- 4. The teacher with whom the teacher assistant served has been provided training for observing and evaluating the assistant's teaching practice through the institution providing the assistant's professional education program or through the school or district's mentor training program; and*
- 5. The teacher assistant has been working with permission and under the authority of the principal of the school or a designee.*

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education defines "Teacher Assistant" as an individual who has served as an assistant or aide with teaching responsibilities to a certificated teacher in a public school or accredited nonpublic school setting. (See page 29 here:

<http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/5csr/5c20-400.pdf>). A paraprofessional assigned to an individual student does not meet these requirements.

## PROFESSIONAL SEMESTER COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS

- A. Candidates who qualify according to the above criteria should indicate their status as a Teaching Assistant Student Teacher on the Student Teacher Application.
- B. Candidates who indicate their status as a Teaching Assistant Student Teacher will be responsible to submit written verification by the Superintendent/Principal of the teaching assistant's job title, responsibilities including content area and grade level, and length of employment in that position to satisfactorily meet the DESE requirements as stated in Condition #1.
- C. Candidates who indicate their status as a Teaching Assistant Student Teacher will be responsible to submit written verification by the Superintendent/Principal that the classroom teacher with whom the teaching assistant has been placed has at least three years experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school setting, has a professional certificate in the content area and grade range being taught, and has earned a Master's degree to satisfactorily meet the DESE requirements as stated in Condition #3.
- D. If both Condition #1 and Condition #3 are met, the Teaching Assistant Student Teacher Candidate will be granted permission to complete 12 weeks of student teaching in their current Teaching Assistant placement. Teaching Assistant Student Teacher Candidates are expected to fulfill all of the same duties and complete all of the same assignments of traditional student teachers as stated in Condition #2. The expectations are outlined in the Student Teaching Syllabus.
- E. The regular classroom teacher will essentially switch roles with the Teaching Assistant during the course of the student teaching assignment. In addition, the regular classroom teacher will assume the responsibilities of the Cooperating Teacher as explained in the Cooperating Teacher Tutorials and Student Teaching Syllabus to satisfactorily meet the DESE requirement as stated in Condition #4.
- F. The Teaching Assistant Student Teacher Candidate may continue to receive compensation during the 12-week student teaching experience as long as he/she has the approval of the employing district as stated in Condition #5.

# Student Teaching for Candidates Employed as Teaching Assistants Verification Form

Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Preservice Teacher Candidate/Teaching Assistant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check each box that is completed/fulfilled:

- I have read the criteria listed above on the Student Teaching for Candidates Employed as Teaching Assistants and the Professional Semester Course Requirements for Teaching Assistants.
- The named Preservice Teacher Candidate/Teaching Assistant has been employed in the above school for 2 years, beginning on \_\_\_\_\_ (please insert date).
- The named Teaching Assistant's experience was concurrent with his/her participation in the HLGU professional education program.
- The named Teaching Assistant's classroom experience is in \_\_\_\_\_ grade(s) and in the following content area(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
- The named Teaching Assistant's experience meets the definition required by DESE as "an assistant or aide with teaching responsibilities to a certified teacher." **A paraprofessional assigned to an individual student does not meet these requirements.**

The teacher with whom the Teaching Assistant has been placed meets the following qualifications for a cooperating teacher:

- three years teaching experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school setting,
- a professional certificate in the content area and grade range being taught,
- and has earned a Master's degree from \_\_\_\_\_.

Principal's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_