



**Field Site Expectations / Block 5 Students**  
**Kent State University – Early Childhood Education**

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**Time Frame for Students – 500+ Hours**  
**Spring, 2024**  
**15 Weeks**  
**January 16-May 3**

Starts Tuesday, Jan 16	500+ Hours
Monday - Friday every week	Mentor Teacher's Schedule

1. Students have one 3-credit class at 4:25 once every other week at the Kent campus. Please allow them to leave field early if they must on those class days.
2. Most materials the mentor may need can be found at: <https://www.kent.edu/ehhs/voss/clinical-experiencestudent-teaching>

**Thoughts to Support Block 5 Students**

- **Students are expected to respond** in a positive, open-minded manner to suggestions from their Mentor Teacher(s); students want **specific, constructive** recommendations regularly on how to improve.
- **Students are expected to interact** with the children throughout the entire day. Students should not be sitting down. They should be actively engaged with students all day from day one!
- **Students are expected to take on responsibility** for certain portions of daily teaching. Experiencing the life of the teacher is a valuable opportunity.
- Once they are completing actual lesson plans, **students are expected to plan for differentiated instruction and assessment** for the entire class (including special ed, ELL, Title I, etc).
- **Students will meet with a University Supervisor** who will visit the classroom at least four times. At the mid-point and at the conclusion of the semester, a three-way conference (Mentor Teacher, the Supervisor, and the student teacher) must be scheduled to discuss the student's strengths and areas for improvement using the program's performance assessment and the student's Professional Development Plan goals, if applicable.
- **Students who are sick** must call the Mentor Teacher and University Supervisor if absence is necessary (contagious illness or death in the immediate family are generally considered the only excused

absences). Absences (after 3 days) must be made-up as stated in handbook- Exam Week is an acceptable time to do this. Student teachers may miss up to 3 additional days for interviews, job fairs, or OAE's if documentation is provided to supervisor. These 3 days do not need to be made up.

- **Students are expected to follow the calendar in place at their assigned school** (rather than taking days off according to the University calendar). For example, **Inclement Weather Days and Spring Break** should follow the school site's expectations.

### Mentor Teacher Responsibilities

- **You, the Mentor Teacher, are the Instructor-in-Residence!** Pointing out what students are doing that is effective/desirable as they work with children is very helpful. Speaking to them when children are gone for the day, or before they arrive, about what they can do to improve is equally valued. These include suggestions about curriculum as well as classroom management techniques.
- **We desire a mutually beneficial experience** for the student and mentor teacher – please discuss your goals with the student and Supervisor; indicate how the student teacher and Supervisor can support you in progressing towards *your* goals for the classroom.
- **Please model open, professional communication** for the novice teacher. Make introductions, ask thought provoking questions, seek insights, share your reflections on your early years, and facilitate growth as a role model.
- **Address any questions or concerns** regarding student expectations or interactions with staff, children or families to the University Supervisor assigned to the student teacher. If you feel you need further assistance, do not hesitate to contact the Block V Coordinator for Kent State, Dr. Katie Knapp ([knapp@kent.edu](mailto:knapp@kent.edu)).
- **Please allow the student teacher to teach their “K-Step” lessons** (3 short lessons all in one week in the fifth week). These are best done in any flexible time students have since it is difficult to teach these from a scripted curriculum.

### Block 5 Evaluations

The supervisor and the mentor will evaluate the student teacher in a formal way twice, once at mid-terms and once at the end of the semester. The forms can be found in the ECED Supplementary Handbook via the website listed above and/or the Supervisor. Please note that it is expected that the student will receive some “not met” or “partially met” scores at mid-term since you may not have witnessed evidence of the skills at that point.

### Student Teachers should NOT:

- be doing homework, like reading assigned texts or typing papers—unless they are working on K-STEP planning with the mentor;
- include commuting time in field hours;
- be conversing with peers about events that are not focused on the needs of the children in the classroom;
- using social media at all (unless the Mentor Teacher specifically requests it for the purpose of communicating school events with families and/or staff).