



Alliant International University  
California School  
of Education

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### Requirement Policies

#### **Requesting MOU's**

To request a new MOU, you must complete the MOU Request Form no later than the add/drop deadline of the term prior to the start of Clinical Practice. Submitting this request does NOT guarantee an MOU agreement will be approved or approved by the start of your Clinical Practice course.

Disclosure: MOU contracts are subject to expiration at various times within an academic year resulting in the potential for a change of placement for Clinical Practice.

Disclosure: The University understands that all Student Teacher Candidates, Interns, and PPS Students are required to adhere to all state and local heathorders.

For Clinical Practice placements, at least 10% of the student body must be comprised of each of the following: English Language Learners (ELLs), students with disabilities, and students from a low socioeconomic background.

If a district falls short of the 10% threshold in any of the aforementioned areas, the District understands that for each percentage point below that threshold, the candidate will be required to observe for two (2) full days in either an ELL classroom, a Special Education classroom, or a classroom at a Title 1 school, depending on the area or areas, of deficient diverse student population group(s), to gain sufficient experience in those student population groups.

The CTC allows universities to establish their percentage requirements; the CTC approved Alliant's 10% requirement when we submitted our MOU agreement for approval. Alliant selected 10% to ensure we met the CTC expectations and requirements for Clinical Practice placements.

#### **CTC Common Standards**

**Standard 3** – Fieldwork and Clinical Practice the university designs and implements a planned sequence of clinical experiences for candidates to develop and demonstrate the knowledge and skills to educate and support P-12 students in meeting state-adopted content standards. The university and all programs collaborate with their partners regarding the criteria and selection of clinical personnel, site-based supervisors, and school sites, as appropriate to the program.

## **Clinical Practice Placements**

### A. Diversity in All Placements (Student Population)

1. In all Clinical Practice placements, candidates should have significant exposure to school settings that reflect the full diversity of California and Arizona public schools.

2. Prior to placing candidates, programs should review the demographics of the school to ensure a “diverse school setting” that reflects California’s and Arizona’s public schools.

Programs must ensure that the placement is a diverse school setting relative to all of the following, and may be required to provide evidence at the time of the site visit:

a. Race, ethnicity of the students.

b. Number of students from families below the federal poverty level, number, or percentage of students on scholarship, tuition assistance, or other proxies that demonstrate that the school serves students from families in lower socio- economic income ranges.

c. Languages spoken by the students, including English Learners.

d. The inclusiveness of the school for students with disabilities and the process for students to receive additional services, i.e., student study team and individualized education program (IEPs) processes.

Teacher Education Candidates must have opportunities to experience the full range of authorizations that will appear on their specific credentials. To accomplish this, Alliant International University requires candidates to conduct multiple video Progress Assessments while completing their clinical practice field experience courses and edTPA requirements. These video Progress Assessment must be in-person, synchronous, interactive lessons conducted to at least a small group of students (minimum of 4 students) at once. Because of this requirement, Teacher Education Candidates are encouraged to seek positions within public schools or public charter schools while seeking clearance for Clinical Practice. Teacher Education Candidates are not permitted to secure positions in online schools and/or home schools. The ability to work with Independent Study Schools is on a limited basis and requires specific additional documentation from the Teacher Candidate and potential employer when seeking approval for an Independent Study position. This process must be reviewed and approved by the Credentialing Department. Candidates needing to seek approval for an Independent Study Position must reach out directly to their assigned Credential Analyst.

### **Private Schools Policy**

As Alliant has been updating coursework in order to meet and exceed the high standards and rigor set forth by our accrediting bodies, our university has elected to forego partnering with private schools. Many private school placements do not offer the level of diversity and inclusion necessary to successfully complete key assignments within our curriculum.

The California Education Code does not authorize the placement of Interns at private schools.

Online schools, independent study programs, and home schools are not prohibited as placements for Interns.

When candidates are teaching at online schools, independent study programs, or home schools, the required experience may be challenging and, in some cases, impossible to achieve. Programs must consider if the employment setting is appropriate for learning to teach and if the program will ensure that the Interns, Student Teachers, PPS students can get the significant experiences required to complete their course work in their programs. This includes the ability to teach whole groups of students. Decisions regarding fieldwork placements, including placements as a teacher of record, are the responsibility of the program, not the candidate nor the employer.

Our Student Teaching Placement Lead, Jaime Pelegrin, will be able to assist in the process of finding an appropriate placement for our Student Teachers.

### **Charter Schools Policy**

Charter Schools listed on the CDE website can be confusing, but here is the basic way to look at this situation:

County Office of Education Districts can authorize Charter Schools to operate as an independent charter school within their geographical boundaries. During their operation tenure, County Office of Education Districts will oversee them to make sure they are operating appropriately, but their operations are theirs alone.

They are listed on [CDE](#) as a Directly Funded Charter School, indicating that they are an independent charter school. If they were fully overseen (all operations, day-to-day, etc.) by County Office of Education Districts, they would be listed as a Locally Funded Charter School, which is **dependent** on an outside organization for their management.

Another item Alliant looks at to verify that they are overseen by themselves internally and are not under the management of County Office of Education Districts, are the staff emails listed on their CDE Page, which all end in their own URLs.