



# Clinical Experiences Collaborative Agreement

*Valdosta State University*

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia by and on behalf of Valdosta State University through its **Dewar College of Education and Human Services (COEHS)** and **Clarksville-Montgomery County School System** located in Clarksville, Tennessee (**P-12**) agree to enter into this Collaborative Agreement for the establishment and maintenance of a mutually-beneficial relationship. The parties agree that while we recognize that each relationship is unique, the following common principles are intended to facilitate all work associated with this Agreement:

**Shared purpose** in collaborating for improved learning for all stakeholders; focusing on continuous school/system/agency improvement and student achievement.

**Reciprocity** whereby the school/system/agency and program provider equally benefit from having candidates and program faculty participate in the school/system/agency environment through mutually valuable opportunities such as: 1) preparation of candidates; 2) training, evaluation, and ongoing professional development for all educators; 3) research and inquiry into improving practice; 4) and, other functions as agreed upon by the school/agency and program provider.

### **P-12 Role and Requirements**

Based upon the availability of appropriate P-12 professionals for participation, the P-12 principal or appropriate supervisor will work with the COEHS to assign VSU students enrolled in an educator preparation program specific P-12 teachers or other school professionals who demonstrate a positive impact on candidates' development and diverse P-12 student learning and development. Support leadership candidates who participate in school improvement and research partnerships with university personnel. Mentor educators assigned to educator candidates or interns shall be the best qualified, have received an annual summative performance evaluation rating of proficient/satisfactory or higher for the most recent year of experience, and have a minimum of three (3) years of experience in a teaching, service, or leadership role. These educators shall hold renewable professional-level certification in the content area of the certification sought by the educator candidate.

### **COEHS Role and Requirements**

The COEHS will work with the P-12 principal or appropriate supervisor to design and implement clinical experiences, utilizing various modalities, of sufficient depth, breadth, diversity, coherence, and duration to ensure candidates demonstrate their developing effectiveness and positive impact on diverse P-12 students' learning and development. Emphasis will be placed on experiences that provide active professional practice or demonstration and that include substantive work with P-12 students or P-12 personnel as appropriate for the areas in which the educator candidates are being prepared unless both parties agree that the school placement should involve observation only. As agreed upon by the P-12 mentor educator and university supervisor, the mentor educator will deploy gradually increasing responsibilities to the student as the capacity to carry such responsibilities is demonstrated. The supervision of COEHS educator candidate experiences in the P-12 schools will be performed cooperatively by appropriate members of the school personnel and the VSU educator preparation program personnel. The COEHS will work with the P-12 principal or appropriate supervisor to prepare, evaluate, and support high-quality clinical educators through training, evaluation, and ongoing professional development. COEHS shall inform its students/educator candidates that they are responsible for following P-12's rules and regulations, including but not limited to, recognition of the confidential nature of information regarding P-12 students and their records pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act as codified at 20 U.S.C. §1232(g) ("FERPA"). Prior to placement, COEHS will ensure that COEHS students provide to P-12 written evidence of professional liability insurance coverage which extends through the term of

the COEHS student's placement with the P-12 and with the minimum amount of coverage per COEHS student being \$1,000,000/\$5,000,000.

### **COEHS Students Role and Requirements**

COEHS students, also referred to as educator candidates, will present himself/herself only after a confirmation of the placement by both the appropriate P-12 personnel and COEHS Partnership Relations Specialist. COEHS students will complete P-12 forms required for completion of a school placement, including a background check as required by Tennessee law as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and understand that placements will not be assigned until forms are completed and submitted to appropriate individuals in the P-12. COEHS students will maintain COEHS-approved liability insurance for the duration of clinical experiences and hold a Georgia Pre-Service Certificate or other COEHS-approved certification. COEHS students will follow P-12 policies, guidelines, procedures, and curriculum at all times, or otherwise be withdrawn from the clinical experience. COEHS students will also meet attendance requirements set by the P-12 and COEHS, conduct himself/herself as a professional, accept professional feedback, or otherwise be withdrawn from the clinical experience. P-12 has the sole discretion to remove a COEHS student/educator candidate from its facilities at any time to ensure the safety and welfare of its students and staff. P-12 will notify COEHS if such removal occurs.

### **Miscellaneous Terms**

COEHS students are not employees or agents of the P-12, nor do they have any expectation of receiving compensation from the P-12. COEHS students have no guarantee of future employment with the P-12.

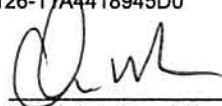
Each Party agrees to comply with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Executive Order 11246, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and related regulations to each.

This Agreement shall in no way be interpreted as creating an agency or employment relationship between the Parties.

The term of this Agreement shall be for three years, commencing on August 1, 2023 until May 31, 2026. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon giving 30 days written notice to the other Party. Such termination shall have no effect on COEHS students receiving clinical/practicum experience during the current academic term, other than as outlined previously herein. Amendments or revisions to this Agreement must be approved in writing by the designated representatives of each party.

The undersigned accept the terms of this Agreement, as presented herein for the establishment and maintenance of a mutually beneficial relationship with shared purpose and reciprocity:

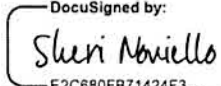
Christopher Reneau  
Administrator, School/System/Agency  
Print Name

  
Administrator, School/System/Agency  
Signature

CMCSS CFO  
Administrator, School/System/Agency  
Title


10/24/23  
Date

Dr. Sheri Noviello  
Administrator, Valdosta State University  
Print Name

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Administrator, Valdosta State University  
Signature

Provost and V.P. of Academic Affairs  
Administrator, Valdosta State University  
Title

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Approved as to form  
Valdosta State University  
Office of Legal Affairs  
Justin M. Arrington, Chief Legal Affairs Officer:   
7-25-23