



<http://www.slim.emporia.edu>

## **School Library Media Licensure Handbook**

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## **School Library Media Licensure Handbook**

### **Introduction**

Research conducted in the U.S. and Canada during the past five years demonstrates that reading enjoyment is strongly and positively linked to student achievement. The school library, long regarded as the cornerstone of school community, is critical to the learning experience and student academic achievement. Research reveals a positive relationship between professionally staffed school libraries and student achievement.

The successful school library media specialist program will empower the aspiring teacher-librarian to facilitate inquiry-based learning, confidence, and creativity for many future students. The Emporia State University, School of Library and Information Management faculty and administration are grateful for the enthusiastic cooperation and positive influence of school partners who give of their time and efforts. These educators enable ESU teacher-librarian candidates to successfully transition to the world of teaching and learning in today's school.

### **Conceptual Framework of The Teachers College (new fall 2009)**

The conceptual framework is presented through the mission of The Teachers College to develop The Professional: Critical Thinker, Creative Planner, and Effective Practitioner. This mission is definitional to the philosophy, purpose, goals and institutional standards of the program, which integrates diversity, appropriate technology, and field experiences throughout the education program. The current, revised definition of this mission statement utilizes the earlier views of the 20<sup>th</sup> century education professional to construct a new definition and model of The Professional Educator who provides service to society; understands and applies interdisciplinary scholarly knowledge; engages in practical action; embraces uncertainty and change; participates in self-reflection; and belongs to a professional community. The complete framework and model are available on the slim website <http://slim.emporia.edu/index.php/admission/school-library-media-licensure/> and is also posted on The Teachers College website.

### **Kansas Department of Education Professional Education Standards**

Standards for school library media specialists PreK-12 are outlined in the KSDE Professional Education Standards document. This document outlines eight standards including knowledge and performance indicators for each. These standards are used to guide both education and practice of professional school library media specialists. The complete document is available on the KSDE and slim website at

<http://slim.emporia.edu/index.php/admission/school-library-media-licensure/>

### **AASL Standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learner**

Standards for the 21st-Century Learner offer vision for teaching and learning to both guide and beckon our profession as education leaders. They will both shape the library program and serve as a tool for library media specialists to use to shape the learning of students in the school. The learning standards begin by defining nine foundational common beliefs:

- Reading is a window to the world.
- Inquiry provides a framework for learning.
- Ethical behavior in the use of information must be taught.
- Technology skills are crucial for future employment needs.
- Equitable access is a key component for education.
- The definition of information literacy has become more complex as resources and technologies have changed.
- The continuing expansion of information demands that all individuals acquire the thinking skills that will enable them to learn on their own.
- Learning has a social context.
- School libraries are essential to the development of learning skills.

The Standards describe how learners use skills, resources, and tools to

1. inquire, think critically, and gain knowledge;
2. draw conclusions, make informed decisions, apply knowledge to new situations, and create new knowledge;
3. share knowledge and participate ethically and productively as members of our democratic society;
4. pursue personal and aesthetic growth.

See American Association of School Libraries website at

<http://www.ala.org/ala/aasl/aaslproftools/learningstandards/standards.cfm>

### **School Library Media Licensure**

Teacher licensure is authorized by each state. In Kansas, Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) accredits college and university programs that meet the Department's regulations. Beginning 2009 fall semester, SLIM will no longer serve school library media licensure MLS students in Colorado. Any MLS Colorado student who began before 2009 fall semester will be able to complete the program.

Emporia State University's school library media licensure program is included within the Master of Library Science (MLS) degree program. All individuals wishing to earn school library media licensure through ESU must apply and be admitted in the MLS program.

### **Alternative Route/Restricted License**

This program is designed to fill school specialist vacancies in Kansas schools through an alternative route to licensure. This is designed for someone with a Master of Library Science who does not have a teaching license but would like to become a licensed Kansas school library media specialist. Information about this program is available by contacting the program coordinator, Dr. Kirsten Limpert at [klimpert@emporia.edu](mailto:klimpert@emporia.edu) or Dr. Mirah Dow at [mdow@emporia.edu](mailto:mdow@emporia.edu). Also see <http://www.emporia.edu/teach/altroute.htm>

### **Teacher Licensure**

To be licensed as a Kansas school library media specialist, an individual must hold a current, initial teaching license and fulfill all the KSDE requirements. Information about conditional license and professional license requirements is available at <http://slim.emporia.edu/index.php/admission/school-library-media-licensure/>

Questions about teacher licensure should be directed to ESU's Licensure Officer, Ms. Shannon Hall [shall6@emporia.edu](mailto:shall6@emporia.edu)

Questions about teacher licensure in states other than Kansas should be directed to the State's department of education.

Application for Kansas Teacher's Licenses is online at <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=111>

### **Transferring Out-of-State Credits**

Individuals who have taken course work and/or have been certified/licensed in another State and who want to become licensed in Kansas, should contact us. Each individual case will be evaluated and decisions will be made based on the student's education.

### **Time Limit**

Students have seven (7) years to complete the MLS degree. This period begins with the first class counted toward the degree.

## MLS Admission

Information about the MLS admission process is available at <http://slim.emporia.edu/index.php/applying/>

## School Library Media Course Sequence

Beginning 2010, this is the course sequence. For complete information about curriculum, see School Library Media Licensure Curriculum document.

Semester	Classes	Cumulative Credits
Fall	LI513	
Spring	[LI513], LI801, LI802	6 credit hours
Summer	LI804, LI813, [LI755*]	13 credit hours
Fall	LI810* (LI840*), LI815*	19 credit hours

## End of Spring Cohorts' First Academic Year

Spring	LI814, LI831	24 credit hours
Summer	LI832, LI851	30 credit hours
Fall	LI876/LI877, LI840	33/34 credit hours
Spring	LI876/LI877, LI880	36 Credit hours

## \*Highly Recommended Elective

## School Library Media Assessment

NCATE. Six National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Unit Standards identify the knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions expected of educational professionals. NCATE standards apply to initial teacher preparation and advanced programs for teachers and other school professional.

Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Professional Dispositions

Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation

Standard 3: Field Experiences and Clinical Practice

Standard 4: Diversity

Standard 5: Faculty Qualification, Performance, and Development

Standard 6: Unit Governance and Resources.

At ESU, school library media is one advanced program of The Teachers College for school professionals. The NCATE assessment applies to all school library media students: off-campus, distance learning, and alternate route programs.

SLIM. At SLIM, school library media assessment of student knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions are assessed at four decision

points. Students must successfully complete each decision point before advancing to the next. *This schedule for each decision is based on the school library media student beginning the MLS program in the fall semester.*

**Begin Spring 2010**

<b>Decision Point</b>	<b>Semester</b>
<p><b>Decision Point #1</b></p> <p>Admission to MLS-SLM program or SLM- program; MLS Director will conduct initial interview and will consult with SLM coordinator if there is a question.</p>	<p>First Semester, LI801 &amp; LI802</p> <p>Note: students may enroll in 513 in the fall semester preceding entrance to the spring cohort.</p>
<p><b>Decision Point #2</b></p> <p>Admission to Program of Study (eligibility for degree candidacy)</p> <p>Students are required to submit a copy of their Kansas teaching license at this point. Prior to granting of degree candidacy, the SLM coordinator will review MLS-SLM and SLM-only students for candidacy to enter the MLS-SLM and SLM-only programs of studies. The Kansas MLS director will complete the program of study for MLS-SLM and SLM-only students. The Kansas director shall continue academic advising for MLS-SLM and SLM-only students. The SLM coordinator will advise regarding progress in the SLM program and will have access to the student records.</p>	<p>End of Second Semester (4 courses: LI801, LI802, LI804, LI813)</p> <p>Admission to Program of Study is completed and in student's file.</p> <p>The SLM coordinator will review the SLM Handbook with students who have passed MLS-SLM and SLM-only degree eligibility.</p>
<p><b>Decision Point #3</b></p> <p><b>Admission to Practicum</b></p> <p>Mid-point in the LI851 course, the coordinator will meet with the instructor and complete the SLM checklist, which includes an assessment of the candidate's knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions. This is the decision point for continuation in the SLM program of studies and enrollment in LI876 and LI877 practicum courses.</p>	<p>Seventh and/or Eighth Semester</p> <p>(Must successfully complete LI851 before being admitted to practicum)</p>
<p><b>Decision Point #4</b></p> <p><b>Completion of Practicum (LI876 and LI877)</b></p> <p>At completion of LI876 and LI877 practica, the SLM coordinator will review the practicum supervisor's evaluations and determine if the student has successfully completed the SLM licensure program.</p>	<p>End of Seventh and/or Eighth Semester</p>

The evaluation of the student is an on-going process conducted by the ESU, SLIM faculty and the on-site supervisor of practicum. The final evaluation of the student and recommendation for licensure and employment as a school library media specialist rests with the SLIM faculty.

### **School Library Media Licensure Program Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Apply for admission and be accepted in the MLS program.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Complete a Licensure Plan with your MLS advisor. This "School Library Media Licensure Plan" is available at <http://slim.emporia.edu/index.php/admission/school-library-media-licensure/>
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Prior to beginning your school library media practicum, contact Dr. Mirah Dow [mdow@emporia.edu](mailto:mdow@emporia.edu) to make arrangements. The LI876 (elementary) and LI877 (secondary) syllabus is online at <http://slim.emporia.edu/index.php/admission/school-library-media-licensure/>
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. At the beginning of the last semester before completion of the MLS program, or before the completion of your licensure program, complete the Kansas Application for Licensure Process. To do so, contact the licensure officer for the appropriate application form. Shannon Hall [shall6@emporia.edu](mailto:shall6@emporia.edu)

### **Enrollment Procedure, School Library Media Practicum**

School library media specialist practicum, LI876 (elementary) and LI877 (secondary) are requirements. The MLS school library media practicum requires that students completed 40 clock hours at the elementary level and 40 clock hours at the secondary level. Prior to enrollment in practicum, the student must

1. contact the supervising library media specialist(s) and complete the Request for Practicum Form. This form must be processed through the ESU Office of Professional Education the student begins the practicum. (This document provides the State mandated proof that the practicum has been approved in a designed building and with a designed supervisor.) Send the completed form(s) to your practicum instructor who will communicate with the ESU Office of Professional Education and will let you know once your practicum location has been officially approved.
  
2. read the LI876 and LI877 syllabi.

3. enroll in LI876 (elementary, 1 credit) and/or LI877 (secondary, 2 credits) course. Both courses are in the course schedule in both fall and spring. Student must complete the course during the semester of enrollment. LI877 is two credit hours because it includes the culminating electronic notebook assignment, which includes materials gather from both elementary and secondary experiences.
4. arrange a visit to the supervisor's library before the practicum begins to discuss the schedule for practicum work and to develop a schedule and outline of practicum activities.

One-half (40 hours) the practicum may be undertaken in the library where the practicum student is employed under the supervision of a licensed school librarian who can provide supervision, instruction and guidance. It is important to remember that the practicum should involve participation in current, best practices with a licensed school library media specialist who can teach you more than you otherwise can learn on your own.

### **Requirements for Practicum Supervisor**

School Library Media Specialist Practicum Supervisor must be a licensed school librarian with a minimum of two years working in the school library, and hold a Master's degree, preferably the Master of Library Science (other Master's degree in education is acceptable).

### **School Library Media Forms and Documents are on the SLIM Website**

School Library Media Forms and Documents are on the SLIM Website <http://slim.emporia.edu>. Be sure to read and share all documents with practicum supervisors.

Programs, School Library Media Documents

- KSDE Standards for School Library Media Specialist
- The Teachers College Conceptual Framework
- Kansas School Library Media Licensure Requirements
- School Library Media Licensure Plan Form
- School Library Media Licensure Curriculum
- Recommended Semester Class Schedule
- Request for Practicum Experience Form
- Practicum Experience Check List
- Student's Self-Evaluation Form
- Responsibilities of Supervising Library Media Specialist
- Student Performance Evaluation Form

## **SLIM Master of Library Science Student Advisement**

Candace Boardman  
Director of Academic Program and MLS Academic Advisor  
[cboardma@emporia.edu](mailto:cboardma@emporia.edu)

Mirah Dow  
Coordinator, School Library Media  
[mdow@emporia.edu](mailto:mdow@emporia.edu)

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