

**Adaptive Special Education
Disposition Assessment Procedures
Emporia State University**

Instructions to Candidates

This packet contains three sections. The first section explains the procedures for assessing dispositions. You will need to sign this section (see next page for signature line) and return it to the Office of Graduate Studies, Box 4003, Emporia State University, 1200 Commercial St., Emporia, KS 66801.

The second section is a timeline of when professionals in the field will assess your dispositions. Note that the first assessment occurs when you apply to the program.

The third section is the assessment instrument. Please copy this and give to three professionals in the field (probably the same individuals who are writing your recommendation letters) who can evaluate your work in educational settings. These disposition assessments are mailed to the Office of Graduate Studies, Box 4003, Emporia State University, 1200 Commercial St., Emporia, KS 66801.

Dispositions to be Assessed (from the Conceptual Framework)

Candidates will demonstrate a:

1. commitment to professionalism and ethical standards.
2. desire to analyze concepts and clinical practices, to experiment, and to evaluate and/or initiate innovative practices.
3. dedication to life-long learning by participating in professional organizations and keeping current with research in their field.
4. belief in having high expectations for all learners.
5. respect for cultural and individual differences by providing equitable learning opportunities for all.
6. desire to communicate with family and community members to make them partners in the educational process.
7. commitment to collaboration with other professionals to improve the overall learning of students.

Procedures for Assessing Dispositions

1. At the time of application, candidates will be notified that dispositions will be assessed and will submit three *Advanced Program Assessment of Dispositions* (page 4), completed by professionals who have observed the candidate in a school setting. Candidates will be provided with a copy of the *Advanced Program Disposition Assessment Timeline* (page 3).
2. A team of at least two graduate faculty will validate acceptable dispositions for admission to a program of study using the dispositions assessment rubric and candidate self-assessment. If dispositions are unacceptable, the candidate will be denied admission to the program or a

plan for improvement contract will be developed for the candidate to follow during probation period. The candidate may file an appeal if admission to the program is denied.

3. Whenever concerns or exemplary actions regarding dispositions arise, they will be documented by letter in the candidate's file. Dispositions will be assessed throughout course work using the *Advanced Program Assessment of Dispositions*, which will be included in the candidate's file. Concerns and exemplary actions will be discussed with the candidate.
4. The Adaptive Special Education program validates acceptable dispositions of candidates for admission to practicum and/or internship. If dispositions are unacceptable, the candidate will be denied admission to the practicum and/or internship or a contract will be developed for the candidate to follow during these field experiences. The candidate may file an appeal if admission to practicum and/or internship is denied.
5. A final assessment of dispositions is done at program completion and recommendation for licensure.

Candidate Notification Policy

1. Candidates will be given a copy of these procedures, the *Advanced Candidate Disposition Assessment Timeline* (page 3), and the *Advanced Candidate Assessment of Disposition* (page 4).
2. Copies of the procedures are downloadable from the Adaptive Special Education web page (<http://www.emporia.edu/psyspe/adaptive.htm>) and available in the department office.
3. Candidates will be provided a copy of the procedure during advising sessions.
4. Candidates must sign a statement that they understand the procedure as written.
5. Signed statements will be kept on file in the candidate's permanent and departmental files.
6. Candidates will be informed that they must meet all criteria listed on the *Advanced Candidate Assessment of Dispositions* form.

Appeals Process

The candidate may appeal admission decisions to the Associate Dean of the Teachers College. Appeals will follow the Emporia State University's Academic Appeals Process.

Candidate's Name (print)

Date

Candidate's Signature

Advanced Candidates Disposition Assessment Timeline

Decision Points	*NCATE 1		*NCATE 2		*NCATE 3		*NCATE 4	
	Application/ Acceptance Program	Coursework	Application/ Acceptance/ Completion Practicum	Coursework	Application/ Acceptance/ Completion Internship	Comprehensive Exam	Completion Program	Graduation
Conceptual Framework Component	Dispositions	Knowledge Skills & Dispositions	Knowledge Skills & Dispositions	Knowledge Skills & Dispositions	Knowledge Skills & Dispositions	Knowledge		
Decision Makers/ Evaluators	Program Faculty	Instructor	Clinic Director/ Advisor/ Instructor	Instructor	Program Coordinator/ On-Site Supervisor/ Instructor	Program Faculty	Licensure Officer Program Faculty	Graduate School

Advanced Candidate Assessment of Dispositions

Candidate's Name (print) _____ Recommender _____ Date _____

Candidates must meet or exceed disposition expectations on all items by the time they are recommended for licensure.

Please circle one number for each disposition using the descriptors listed below the disposition as the basis for your rating, and make comments in the blank space under the disposition.

The candidate demonstrates:	Not Observed	Needs Improvement	Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
I. Commitment to Professionalism and Ethical Standards	0	1	2	3
1. is punctual and regularly attends classes 2. maintains positive attitudes during and outside of class 3. is honest and trustworthy in communications and interactions with others 4. demonstrates ethical behavior 5. is open and receptive to change 6. is willing to go beyond required assignments Comments:				
II. Desire to Analyze/Evaluate Concepts and Clinical Practices, to Experiment and to Evaluate and/or Initiate Innovative Practice	0	1	2	3
7. is accepting of constructive feedback from others 8. is curious and willing to experiment with new ideas and techniques 9. conducts self assessment through reflection 10. recognizes personal limitations and seeks to compensate for/overcome them Comments:				
III. Dedication to Life-Long Learning by Participating in Professional Organizations and by Being Current with Research in Their Field	0	1	2	3
11. demonstrates a willingness to read and/or conduct research on his/her own 12. seeks opportunities for professional development 13. takes responsibility for personal learning 14. understands the role as an educator 15. maintains membership in professional organizations Comments:				
IV. Belief in Having High Expectations for All Learners	0	1	2	3
16. demonstrates belief that all students can learn at their potential 17. makes a positive contribution to the learning of others (students/peers) 18. understands the role of standards and outcomes Comments:				
V. Respect for Cultural and Individual Differences by Providing Equitable Learning Opportunities for All	0	1	2	3
19. is tolerant of, and responsive to ideas and views of others 20. is respectful of and responsive to individual differences 21. provides equitable learning opportunities for all 22. considers backgrounds, interests, and attitudes of all students when planning Comments:				
VI. Desire to Communicate with Family and Community Members to Make Them Partners in Education	0	1	2	3
23. is sensitive to students, peers, and families of different cultures and with special needs 24. encourages interactions in a mutually respectful and friendly manner Comments:				
VII. Commitment to Collaboration with Other Professionals to Improve the Overall Learning of Students	0	1	2	3
25. relates well to peers, faculty, staff, and other professionals 26. is willing to share information and ideas with others 27. works well with others to develop opportunities for peer and student learning 28. acts as a consultant with other individuals/systems related to students/clients Comments:				

Please return this completed form to Office of Graduate Studies, ESU, Box 4003, 1200 Commercial St., Emporia, KS 66801.