Language Requirement Policy for ED/EL 220 Field Experience

(revision approved by EDEL220 faculty 092309, approved by Council on Teacher Education 091001)

For the ED/EL 220 field experience, working with a supervising teacher tutoring students in a classroom setting requires English proficiency. An interview is required of an EL/ED220 student if the 220 instructor determines that the student’s oral proficiency in English may affect the field experience. The 220 instructor will make that determination within the first week of the semester through strategies such as having students introduce themselves and, if there is a concern, meeting with the student for conversation to evaluate language proficiency. By the end of the second week of the semester, 220 instructors will send names of students needing interviews to the Associate Dean of the Teachers College.

The Associate Dean of The Teachers College will appoint three regular faculty members and designate one of them as chair to form the ED/EL220 Interview Committee. The chair will schedule interviews with those students submitted by the instructors. The interviews will be conducted during weeks three and four of the semester.

During the interview, the student and the committee will converse about the student’s background, interest in being a teacher, other personal interests, future plans, and the reason for taking ED/EL 220. Following the interview, the ED/EL 220 student will be excused to wait outside of the interview room while the committee will decide at that time whether the student has the language skills to tutor at the level of licensure being sought. The chair of the committee will notify the student and the 220 instructor of the committee’s decision. If the decision is positive, the chair will also notify OPES, which will then place the student. If the decision is negative, the chair will provide to the Associate Dean in writing the rationale for the committee’s decision.

The student has the right to appeal a negative decision to the Dean of The Teachers College. In addition, the student will receive from the 220 instructor a list of campus resources to strengthen language proficiency.