NAZARETH COLLEGE OF ROCHESTER
Inclusive Education Programs

Practicum Guidelines & Application for a Job Embedded Placement

The 3-credit practicum is designed to provide and document your experience working with students with disabilities at a developmental level and/or in a certification area different than your initial certification. It thus provides a focused opportunity for using a different "lens", a way to experience the multiple facets of being an inclusive educator.

Eligibility:

Available **only** to students who already hold teacher certification AND who are enrolled in Additional Certification Programs

Same Level: Practicum focused on teaching students with disabilities at the specific developmental level of certification sought, i.e., Early Childhood (Birth-Grade 2), Childhood (Grades 1-6), or Adolescence (Grades 7-12)

Changing Levels: Practicum focused on both "general education" setting <u>and</u> teaching students with disabilities at the specific developmental level of certification sought, i.e., Early Childhood (Birth-Grade 2), Childhood (Grades 1-6), or Adolescence (Grades 7-12)

Length: One seven-week placement (minimum of 150 hours)

The nature of the experience will differ depending on the classroom setting, time of year of practicum and whether it is a job-embedded experience* (SEE separate application). However, the following are **required components**:

1. Goal sheets and self-evaluations
2. Attendance at a Committee of Special Education (CSE) meeting
3. Teaching opportunities – with accompanying lesson plans which address the special education needs of students with disabilities
4. Reflective journal (2-3 entries/week)

Other possible experiences:

1. Participating in a range of teacher roles (e.g., co-teacher, consultant teacher, etc.)
2. Participating in student assessment
3. Participating in team planning meetings re: individual student
4. Participating in parent/family involvement activities
5. Other …?

There will be a Nazareth college supervisor assigned to each practicum student. The supervisor will do a "hello" visit and two (2) formal observations, at a minimum.

Similar to student teaching (but at a faster pace because of the prior background of the practicum students), practicum students should gradually pick up more and more planning, teaching and evaluation responsibilities as the practicum progresses. The goal is for the practicum students to assume the **full range** of teaching responsibilities for at least one week of the practicum experience.

Evaluation: Mid-way and final evaluation done by both mentor teacher and practicum student.

PLEASE NOTE: The Office of Field Placement Services still requires a practicum application and a copy of your resume to be submitted by the student teaching/practicum deadline.

NAZARETH COLLEGE OF ROCHESTER
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
STUDENT PROPOSAL FOR JOB-EMBEDDED PRACTICUM
Graduate Inclusive Additional Certification Programs

Student's Name: _____

Student's Address:_____

_____

School: _____

School Address_____

_____

Principal/Administrator:_____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Requirements to Participate in a Job-Embedded Practicum:

To participate in a job-embedded practicum in the Inclusive Education Programs you must meet and document the following requirements.

1. Hold teacher certification and be matriculated in an "additional" certification program at the "same" or "changing" developmental level.

2. Current employment at developmental level of "Teaching Students with Disabilities" certification sought (e.g., birth-grade 2, grades 1-6, or grades 7-12).

3. Sustained contact with students with disabilities within employment context (at least 150 hours over a semester). Documentation of equivalent to one half semester (minimum of 150 hours) of teaching.

4. District sign-off indicating approval for job-embedded practicum to be done on site.

5. Availability of a school-based mentor (with special education certification and consistent availability to complete at least four formal classroom observations and assess performance). Mentor will be remunerated by Nazareth College.

6. Individual goal setting contract to be negotiated with college supervisor prior to start of practicum.

7. Submission of "Job Embedded Practicum Application Form" (available from Office of Field Placement Services) following deadlines published in the Graduate Studies Brochure/Schedule of Courses. This proposal is also due on that published deadline. In addition, you must register for INEC, INCH, or INAD 635: Practicum in Inclusive Education and fill out a Student Teaching/Practicum Application.

In the space below, or on a separate sheet, provide a detailed description of your duties in the classroom where you are employed as a teacher and how this provides sustained contact and opportunities to work with students with disabilities. Please address the requirements listed above AND the range of experiences outlined in the attached “Practicum Guidelines.”

Proposed dates of your practicum: Start _____ to end _____.

Please indicate the availability of a school-based mentor with special education certification and consistent availability to complete at least four formal classroom observations and assess performance. Mentor will be remunerated by Nazareth College at the level of a cooperating teacher for a practicum placement.

Name of school-based mentor: _____

Certification(s) held: _____

Signature of willingness and availability to serve in this role and to complete at least 4 classroom observations and assess performance:

_____ _____
Signature of School-Based Mentor Date

_____ _____
Principal/Administrator Signature of Approval Date

_____ _____
Nazareth College Program Director Signature of Approval Date

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT YOUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

Dr. Kate Daboll-Lavoie
Program Director of **Early Childhood** Inclusive Education Programs
Nazareth College
kdaboll9@naz.edu
(585) 389-2618

Dr. Kerry Dunn
Program Director of **Childhood** Inclusive Education Programs
Nazareth College,
kdaboll9@naz.edu
(585) 389-5138

Dr. Jim Black
Program Director of **Adolescence** Inclusive Education Programs
Nazareth College,
jblack8@naz.edu
(585) 389-2619