

COMPENSATION/HONORARIUM FOR COOPERATING TEACHERS

The Office of Student Field Experiences provides a small honorarium to Cooperating Teachers near the end of the Student Teaching semester. A Cooperating Teacher who serves as a Student Teaching mentor for a full-day, full-semester experience will receive compensation that is equivalent to one semester hour of graduate credit. Cooperating Teachers with a full-semester, full-time placement will be offered a choice of a non-transferable one graduate tuition credit (for enrollment in graduate coursework) or compensation that is equivalent to one semester hour of graduate credit. The Cooperating Teacher who works with a student for a full-day seven-week experience will receive compensation equal to one half the cost of one hour of graduate credit. Placements for less than a full-day or full semester will be prorated based on the cost of one semester hour of graduate credit. The Office of Field Experiences will follow *individual district protocol* when issuing Cooperating Teacher payments however in most cases checks are issued directly to the Cooperating Teacher.

RENEWAL CREDIT OPTION FOR COOPERATING TEACHERS

The Iowa Board of Educational Examiner's (BOEE) has approved a process by which teachers may earn one licensure "renewal" credit every five years for assisting in the training/development of teachers. A teacher is asked to document professional activities such as mentoring a student teacher, attending a cooperating teacher workshop, or serving on a teacher education advisory board. For state licensure renewal, once a teacher has documented they have earned three "teacher preparation" points (with appropriate certificates from a teacher preparation program) they mail the documents along with verification of coursework for the remaining renewal credits to the Iowa Department of Education. More information is found at this BOEE website: <http://www.state.ia.us/boee/forms/StudentTeacherCredit.pdf> Teachers who mentor a student teacher have the following two separate incentives: 1) the monetary compensation the UI provides, and 2) the BOEE renewal credit option.

LEGAL STATUS OF A STUDENT TEACHER

The University of Iowa's Teacher Education Program is approved by the Iowa Department of Education. As such, the following summary of Sections 262, 272, and 670 of the State Code of Iowa apply.

Section 262.30 - "Contracts for training teachers" permits the board of directors for school district to enter into a cooperative written agreement with the state board of regents for on behalf of The University of Iowa.

Section 272.27 - "Student teaching and other educational experiences" If the rules adopted by the board of educational examiners for issuance of any type or class of license require an applicant to complete work in student teaching, pre-student teaching experiences, field experiences, practicums, clinicals, or internships, an institution with a practitioner preparation program approved by the state board of education, shall enter into a written contract with any school district, accredited nonpublic school, preschool registered or licensed by the department of human services, or area education agency in Iowa under terms and conditions as agreed upon by the contracting parties. Students actually teaching or engaged in preservice licensure activities in a school district under the terms of such a contract are entitled to the same protection, as is afforded by that section to officers and employees of the school district.

670.8 - "Officers and Employees Defended" indicates that a Student Teacher who is jointly assigned to a placement in a school district under the terms of a cooperative agreement between the district and the University of Iowa is accorded the same civil and constitutional guarantees of the laws and protection as a licensed teacher. In other words, the Student Teacher has the same legal responsibility and may be held liable for his/her negligent acts and is also accorded the same protection of the laws as the licensed teacher. This code stipulates that Student Teachers who teach in Iowa Public Schools are afforded the same liability protection that school districts provide for their employees. Therefore, Student Teachers placed in Iowa Public Schools do not need to acquire additional liability insurance. Student Teachers placed outside of the State of Iowa or in non-public schools may be asked to document that they have liability insurance. Should this be required, student membership in the Iowa State Education Association or the Professional Educators of Iowa organization is available at a reasonable cost.

Since student teachers are legally protected through the cooperative agreement between the University and the school district, Cooperating Teachers do not need to be physically present in the classroom at all times. However, ultimately, the licensed teacher is responsible for the students in their classroom and should exercise judgment in determining the suitability of leaving the room considering the students involved, the lesson being presented, and the capability of the student teacher.

A Student Teacher should NOT be used as a substitute teacher for a Cooperating Teacher or any other teacher. The rationale for this policy is that the Student Teacher is not licensed and would be teaching in an isolated situation without the immediate supervision of a licensed teacher.