



Educating Leaders of Faith and Character

School of Education
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University of St. Thomas
School of Education



Professional
Field Experiences

PROFESSIONAL FIELD EXPERIENCES

What are professional field experiences?

Professional Field Experiences include direct work with children and youth. These activities provide practice and involve the application and testing of teaching and learning theories, simulations, and microteaching.

How many hours of professional field experiences are required prior to student teaching?

Each student must have on record in the Office of the Director of Field Experiences a **minimum of 80 clock hours** of professional field experience before he or she can do student teaching.

The following requirements must be met:

- A minimum of **50** hours of school-related activities*
- A minimum of **10** hours of community or church-related activities*
- A minimum of **20** hours of professional development activities*

How are professional field experiences reported?

Each student is expected to complete the Report of Professional Field Experience form at the end of each experience. These forms are available from Dyla Gutierrez, Undergraduate Assistant at 132 Malloy Hall and are to be distributed as follows:

- The original should be given to Dyla Gutierrez, Undergraduate Assistant, Malloy Hall.
- Students may retain the carbon copy for their personal records.

What are some of the professional field experiences?

School-related Activities

- Observing students
- Assisting Students
- Reading to children
- Telling stories to children
- Assisting students in the library
- Tutoring (grades K-12)
- Teaching songs
- Directing arts and crafts activities
- Directing speech and drama activities
- Directing physical education or athletic activities

Community and Church-related Activities

- Judging
- Scout activities
- Summer camp
- Recreational activities
- PTA activities
- Fund-raising activities
- Teaching Sunday school
- School and Church carnivals
- Working at school events

Professional Development Activities

- Attending professional meetings, conferences, or workshops
- Membership and participation in professional organizations including:
- BESO- Bilingual Education Student Organization
- ATPE- Association of Texas Professional Educators
- KDP- Kappa Delta Pi
- CEC- Council for Exceptional Children