FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

? I am taking two EDUC classes at the same e same fieldwork for both classes?

😊 No. The state requires that the fieldwork must be completed for this class. If you submit the same fieldwork log/hours for two different classes, you will receive an F in the course.

? I took this class before and completed the fieldwork but failed the course. Can I use fieldwork from the course I failed?

😊 No. Fieldwork must be completed during this semester and be specific to this course.

? Can I do my fieldwork at a private school?

😊 Yes. The school must be accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). You can determine whether a private school is accredited by going to http://mansfield.tea.state.tx.us/tea.askted.web/Forms/Home.aspx. Students should not simply rely on the word of school staff to tell them whether the school is accredited through TEA. Some schools are accredited through other institutions and consider themselves accredited but are not under the auspices of the TEA.

? I have spent hundreds of hours working with children in schools and am already quite knowledgeable. Can I be excused from the fieldwork?

😊 No. We do not have the leeway to grant credit for previous experience. This is a state requirement and we at Lone Star must enforce it with each student.

? I don’t know what grade level I want to teach. What should I do?

😊 This is an excellent opportunity to explore the day-to-day realities of working as a teacher at different grade levels. You are free to do fieldwork at multiple grade levels.

? Can I do fieldwork at several schools?

😊 Yes. It may be helpful for you to get the perspective of teaching from several different schools. You also may choose to do all of your fieldwork at one school for a more in-depth experience.

? I am not sure I can pass the security clearance. What should I do?

😊 Submit the paperwork for the security clearance and see what happens. Lone Star does not get involved in the security clearance process. If you cannot get security clearance and are therefore unable to complete your fieldwork, you will be unable to pass the course.

? Do I need to complete a placement form for each and every teacher?
Placement forms must be complete for each and every teacher. You must turn them in as you receive them.

Can I help out in the classroom?

Your primary job is as an observer. If you are an active participant, you will maximize your learning experience. However, do let the teacher know that you would like to help in any way possible. If the teacher is okay with you assisting in the room, go for it! Make sure you follow guidelines for professional conduct given in this handout.

Is it alright for me to exchange contact information with the teacher?

Observing is a great opportunity for creating connections with teachers and administrators. If they have a business card take it!

If I know a teacher in a school and they said it was okay for me to observe them, can I go?

Yes, only if you have gone through the outlined procedure for the district and have gotten approval. Once approved, then contact the school and let them know you would like to visit a particular teacher’s classroom.

How do I get started?

Read the information in the handbook thoroughly. Use the contact page to guide you. 1. Get in touch with the district you are interested in. 2. Complete the necessary paperwork. 3. Once approved, you will be given instructions on the schools you are able to go into. 4. Contact the schools individually and make arrangements.

Is it alright for me to go to a school personally if I have not heard from them via email?

You must be proactive. If you have not heard back from a school in regards to setting up an observation, you can take action by resending the email, or by making a phone call to the school. You can also go directly to the school.

How many districts should I contact?

This will be up to you. Do to the volume of observers during the semester, it is in your best interest to contact 2 or more.

Can I do more than 16 hours?

Yes you can.