Standards for Essential Abilities and Dispositions for Admission and Continuance in the Education Program of the University of Washington Tacoma

The standards for essential abilities and dispositions for admission to and continuance within the education program, distinguished from academic standards, describe the physical, cognitive, emotional and character requirements to provide reasonable assurance that students can complete the entire course of study and participate in the full spectrum of any education program and/or field practice activities.

In addition to complying with all University of Washington Tacoma written policies, students in the Education Program at the University of Washington Tacoma, are expected to possess the following abilities and dispositions. They are expected to meet these standards in the classroom, in the field practice, and other University of Washington Tacoma education program activities. Attention to these standards will be part of evaluations made by faculty and staff responsible for evaluating applications for admission as well as by faculty and staff responsible for evaluating student performance and progress in classroom and field practice activities.

Communication Skills
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able:

- to communicate effectively and sensitively in written and oral English with fellow students, faculty, staff, and other professionals.
- to express ideas and feelings clearly and demonstrate a willingness and ability to listen to others.
- to possess sufficient skills in spoken and written English to understand the content presented in the program and in the field.

This standard applies to UWT students as they interact in the university setting and with K-12 students, teachers, parents, administrators, and other professionals that are encountered during field practice experiences.

Diversity
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able:

- to appreciate the value of human diversity.
- to interact in an appropriate manner with all persons regardless of dimensions such as the person’s age, class, race, religious affiliation (or lack of), gender, disability, sexual orientation and/or value system.

Empathy
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able:

- to seek to comprehend another individual’s way of life and values.
- to be able to communicate this empathy and support as a basis for a productive professional relationship.
Essential Abilities and Dispositions

Intellectual Reasoning
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able to demonstrate the ability to systematically master, assimilate, apply and evaluate educational issues and situations and interpersonal professional relationships in an informed way.

Interpersonal Skills
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able to demonstrate the interpersonal skills needed to relate effectively to fellow students, K-12 students, faculty, staff, parents, community members and other professionals. These include, but are not limited to, compassion, concern for the welfare of others, integrity and the demonstration of respect for and consideration of others.

Teaching Learning Efficacy
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able to ground professional activities in relevant social, behavioral and biological science knowledge and research. This includes knowledge and skills in relationship building, data gathering, assessment, interventions and evaluation of practice.

Professional Behaviors
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able to behave professionally by knowing and practicing within the scope of education program work, maintaining privacy and confidentiality, respecting others, being punctual and dependable, prioritizing responsibilities, and completing assignments on time.

Professional Commitment
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able:
- to meet the ethical standards of the profession.
- to be committed to the essential values of education, which support the dignity and worth of every individual.

Self-Awareness
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able:
- to know how values, attitudes, beliefs, emotions, and past experiences affect thinking, behavior, and relationships.
- to be willing to examine and change behavior when it interferes with working with fellow students, K-12 students, parents, peers and other professionals.
- to be able to work effectively with others in subordinate positions as well as with those in authority.

Sensory Motor Abilities
Students enrolled in the Master of Education program must be able to possess sufficient cognitive, physical, organizational and psychological ability to attend class and field placement experiences where interns must have the emotional stability and persistence required for full utilization of intellectual abilities, be able to concentrate under periods of distraction, have the stamina to work a teacher's contracted day and be able to organize time and materials, prioritize tasks, perform and supervise several tasks at once, and adapt to changing situations. Disability
Support Services must be consulted regarding reasonable accommodations at (253) 692-4522 or (253) 692-4413 (TTY).

**Academic Performance and Conduct Which May Result in a Review and Possible Dismissal from the Educational Program***

Students may be terminated from the University of Washington Tacoma Education Program for any of the following:
1. Failure to meet or maintain academic grade-point requirements as established by the University of Washington Tacoma and the Education Program.
2. Academic cheating, lying, or plagiarism.
4. Documented evidence of conviction of a criminal act occurring during the course of study, or which occurred prior to admission to the Education Program and became known after admission.
5. Failure to meet the terms of the Standards for Essential Abilities and Dispositions for Admission and Continuance.
6. Removal from field placement by the cooperating school district or agency.

*for further information please see the UWT Education program Retention and Dismissal Policy

**Certification: (Applicant please read and sign)**

I certify that I have read the document titled *Standards for Essential Abilities and Dispositions for Admission and Continuance in the Education Programs of the University of Washington Tacoma*. I understand the standards for essential abilities and dispositions necessary for successful completion of my professional education. I believe that I can meet these standards in my coursework and/or field practice activities. I understand that my progress in these standards will be monitored continuously throughout the program and that I will be expected to engage in self-assessment of my own progress. If, at any point in my education program, faculty or staff judge that I may not be making adequate progress in meeting these standards, or that I do not have the capacity to take part in educational experiences, my status in the program will be subject to evaluation by relevant faculty and staff. Based upon the results of the evaluation, I may be asked to engage in a program of remediation before I am allowed to continue in the program. If the problem is not deemed resolvable, I understand that I may be dismissed from the Education Program.

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Applicant’s Name (Please Print Legibly)  
Applicant’s Program of Study

Applicant’s Signature  
Date

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