



Clinical Teaching Placements Acknowledgement of Risk

The mission of Austin Peay State University is to help each student develop his/her professional competencies. Clinical teaching placements, defined as, and including field experience, practicum, and student teaching, are designed to provide opportunities for teacher candidates to learn to become effective in their area of teaching licensure through observations and practice in a local school setting. These experiences are designed to augment the knowledge, skills, and dispositions gained in the university classroom by requiring regular engagement in on-site, in-person practicum activities in a school setting. However, these experiences also come with enhanced responsibility on the part of the teacher candidate.

Compliance with policies and rules. By signing below, I affirm that I have read and will abide by all applicable University policies and departmental policies/guidelines as well as any policies and rules required by my clinical teaching site. I further affirm my responsibility to comply with all ethical standards associated with my clinical teaching placement.

Duty of care. I agree that it is my responsibility to understand and follow the clinical teaching site's policies and procedures designed to identify and control risks, including safety and security procedures and bloodborne pathogen policies, and to obtain any immunizations or testing which the clinical teaching site and University may recommend and/or require. I further understand that it is my responsibility to follow safe practices as set by Austin Peay State University, my relevant academic program, and my clinical teaching site, as well as those required by local, state and federal governments. I acknowledge that it is my responsibility to bring to the University's and/or Department's attention any information regarding the clinical teaching site being unsafe or otherwise improper.

Practicing within your competency. An important aspect of ethical, professional practice is knowing the limits of your knowledge and skills and not engaging in activities that are beyond your level of competence. I acknowledge that engaging in a clinical teaching site may require a degree of skill and knowledge different from other activities and that I have responsibilities as a participant. It has been explained to me, and I understand, that faculty are available to discuss any questions or concerns I have about the nature and physical demands of this clinical teaching site and the inherent risks, hazards, and dangers associated with this activity.

Acknowledgement of risk. I acknowledge that there are certain risks inherent in my participation in this clinical teaching, including, but not limited to risks arising from: travel to and from the clinical teaching site, clinical teaching activities, unpredictable or violent behavior of certain student populations served by the site, suboptimal working conditions due to pandemic/epidemic circumstances,; and exposure to infectious diseases, including tuberculosis or other airborne pathogens (e.g. COVID-19), and hepatitis, HIV or other bloodborne pathogens.

Assumption of risk and release. I acknowledge that the teaching profession is not risk free and that by extension, clinical teaching placements may inherently involve risk that could result in my bodily injury, up to and including death. I voluntarily participate in this clinical teaching in

spite of these risks. I agree to assume those risks and release Austin Peay State University and its board, employees, agents, and successors, of and from any and all expenses, damages, judgments, and costs, of whatever kind, that arise from any illness or injury I may acquire or sustain while participating in the clinical teaching placement.

Medical conditions and treatment. I acknowledge that Austin Peay State University does not provide health and accident insurance for clinical teaching participants and I agree to be financially responsible for any medical bills incurred as a result of emergency or other medical treatments. Should I require emergency medical treatment as a result of accident or illness arising during the clinical teaching, I consent to such treatment. I will notify the Director of Teacher Education if I have medical conditions about which emergency personnel should be informed.

Unforeseeable circumstances. Circumstances may arise that necessitate discontinuing – permanently or temporarily – clinical teaching placements. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, business disruptions, loss of site credentials, fire, flood, embargoes, war, acts of terrorism, civil commotions, natural disasters, and/or pandemics/ epidemics. I understand that in the event of such a circumstance the University will maintain communication regarding alternative pathways for completion of required coursework and will take all necessary steps to determine a suitable path forward. However, the University will not incur any liability as a result of unforeseen circumstances.

Voluntary election. I am voluntarily electing to move forward with my clinical teaching placement in light of current circumstances. I acknowledge that if I have health issues or am not comfortable participating in the clinical teaching placement at this time, I can elect to postpone my clinical teaching placement to a later date, knowing that it may affect my original projected graduation date and/or the award of my degree. I also understand that I am free to discontinue my clinical teaching placement at any time if I feel the risks are greater than anticipated, understanding that such discontinuance may affect my original projected graduation date and/or the award of my degree.

Student Printed Name

Student Signature

Date