



*Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
FIELD PLACEMENT FOR STUDENT OBSERVER AND/OR
STUDENT/CLINICAL TEACHER
PLACEMENT AGREEMENT*

This Field Placement for Student Observer and/or Student/Clinical Teacher Placement Agreement ("AGREEMENT") is entered into by Texas Christian University, hereinafter referred to as ("TCU"), and White Settlement ISD, hereinafter referred to as ("WSISD") with its central administrative office located in Fort Worth, TX 76108.

TCU, a private educational institution of higher education, trains student observers and teacher candidates to fulfill their educational missions of the State of Texas at the Bachelor Degree level with intentions to complete the educator preparation program requirements for the Texas Education Agency certification process, and prepares candidates in elementary, middle and secondary authentic and/or virtual school campus settings.

WSISD is a public educational agency, deriving its legal status from the Constitution of the State of Texas and from the Texas Educational Code, whose main purpose is to educate students.

The parties mutually agree to enter into this Agreement for the purpose of providing a field placement and/or clinical practice school site for one or more TCU students and/or candidates to participate in the educator preparation program at WSISD schools. Therefore, and in consideration of their mutual goals and desires, the parties enter in the following Agreement:

- I. White Settlement ISD agrees to:
 - a. Allow TCU student observers and/or teacher candidates to observe, teach, and provide hands-on assistance with the classroom teacher's discretion in ethnically, linguistically and socio-economically diverse communities and populations with prior approval of WSISD administration or officials.
 - b. Designate partner teachers (TEA Certified and no minimum number of years of experience) for student observers.
 - c. Designate cooperating / mentor teachers who qualify and are willing to mentor student / clinical teachers. A qualified cooperating / mentor teacher will be in compliance with all applicable national and state accreditation requirements.
 - d. Assist TCU with assessment and feedback of student observers and teacher candidates.
 - e. Promptly notify TCU of any student observer or teacher candidate who violates WSISD policy or the Texas Educator Code of Ethics.
- II. TCU Program agrees to:
 - a. Provide oversight of the educator preparation program for TCU students and teacher candidates.

- b. Ensure that each student observer and/or teacher candidate pass/es a background check required by WSISD before beginning any on-site observations or work at any WSISD.
- c. Obtain approval from WSISD officials prior to assigning any student observer or teacher candidate to WSISD.
- d. Ensure that student observers and teacher candidates comply with WSISD policy, and state and federal laws.
- e. Ensure that student observers and teacher candidates understand and comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) with respect to protected, confidential WSISD student information.
- f. Provide clear expectations in a timely manner regarding schedules, assignments, and assessments.
- g. Assign TCU faculty and staff who will support teacher candidates and cooperating/mentor teachers throughout the course of the clinical practice placement.

III. Additional Terms

- a. Nothing herein shall create any association, partnership, joint venture, joint enterprise, or agency relationship between the parties. In providing the foregoing services, the parties shall act as independent contractors.
- b. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as creating the relationship of employer and employee between WSISD and TCU or between WSISD, student observers and/or teacher candidates. Furthermore, employees of TCU shall not be deemed as employees of WSISD. In carrying out the terms of this Agreement, TCU and WSISD shall select their own employees, and such employees shall be and act under the control of their respective employers and contracts.
- c. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Venue for any legal proceedings regarding this Agreement shall be in Tarrant County, Texas.
- d. Each party signing this Agreement affirms that it has legal authority to enter into this Agreement.
- e. TCU teacher candidates are held to the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators are printed in the Handbook. Teacher Candidates shall comply with state regulations, written local board policies, and other applicable state and federal laws.
- f. School District will notify TCU of any teacher candidate conduct that violates the policies of the School District of the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators.
- g. No alteration, cancellation, variation or addition to this Agreement shall be of any force or effect unless reduced to writing as an addendum to this Agreement and signed by the Parties or their authorized signatories.
- h. None of the provisions of this Agreement shall be considered waived by any Party unless such waiver is given in writing to the other Party. The failure of a Party to insist upon strict performance of any of the terms and conditions hereof, or failure to delay to exercise any rights provided herein or by law, shall not be deemed a waiver of any rights of any Party.
- i. Neither Party shall assign, cede, or otherwise transfer any of its rights and obligations in terms of this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other Party.

- j. Each Party shall maintain at its sole expense adequate insurance or self-insurance coverage to satisfy its obligations under this Agreement.

IV. Term of Agreement *Please check and initial the term.

- ☐ _____ 1 year - This Agreement shall become effective August 1, 2025, and shall continue in full force until July 31, 2026.
- ☐ _____ 2 years - This Agreement shall become effective August 1, 2025, and shall continue in full force until July 31, 2027.

V. Legal Notices

- a. Legal notices required under this Agreement shall be emailed or mailed to:
Texas Christian University, College of Education
 c/o Dr. Karrabi W. Malin, Coordinator of Field Experiences, Career Services, and Alumni Relations
 TCU, College of Education / K.Malin@tcu.edu / 817.257.7662
 TCU Box 297900
 Fort Worth, Texas 76129
- b. Legal notices required under this Agreement shall be emailed or mailed to:
White Settlement ISD
 Frank Molinar, Superintendent / fmolinar@wsisd.net / 817-367-5322
 8224 White Settlement Road
 Fort Worth, TX 76108

<u>White Settlement ISD</u>	<u>Texas Christian University</u>
Name: <u>Sherry Jaffer</u>	Name: Frank Hernandez, PhD
Title: <u>Exec. Dir. HR</u>	Title: TCU, College of Education, Dean <u>Frank.Hernandez@tcu.edu</u>
Signature: <u>Sherry Jaffer</u>	Signature:
Date:	Date:
	Name: Megan Soyer, CPA
	Title: TCU, Associate Provost / <u>m.m.soyer@tcu.edu</u>
	Signature:
	Date: