

Early Field Experience Information

Title 5 Regulations from the California State University Chancellor's Office requires each credential candidate to have participated in a supervised Early Field Experience in a ***school setting*** prior to application to a credential program.

The Early Field Experience is designed to provide you with enough information to make a decision about whether a career in teaching is suitable for you. This experience will help you understand the dynamics of teaching in a public school setting and assist you in focusing your educational goals. It is expected that this experience will occur in either **Grades K-6**, if you are applying for the **Multiple Subject Program**; and in **Grades 7-12, within your subject area**, if you are applying for the **Single Subject Program**.

Goals of Early Field Experience: The main purposes of the Early Field Experience Requirement are to observe: 1) the texts and instructional materials used in schools; 2) the student interactions; 3) the student/teacher interactions; 4) the grouping of students for instruction; 5) the classroom management strategies used by the teacher; 6) the planning and delivery of lesson plans; and 7) how schools function.

You may use as your total 45 hours of experience in up to three classrooms with credentialed teachers. Substitute teaching is acceptable as is tutoring under the auspices of a credentialed teacher. Most experiences need to be accomplished in a public school during regular school hours. This experience must have taken place ***within the last five years***.

The following Verification Form may be duplicated for each experience. (You may use substitute teaching or classroom tutoring if you have proper verification such as pay stubs or written verification from a credentialed teacher.)

Please Note: You can upload the verification forms when you complete your Cal State Apply application.

Getting Started

Contact the site liaison, usually the principal's secretary, at a local public school and introduce yourself as a prospective applicant to a CSU teacher credential program. If you are making your initial contact by e-mail, please put, "Future Teacher," in the subject line.

Observer Etiquette

- Show and discuss the included information with the school site liaison and teacher with whom you are completing this experience.
- Please dress appropriately.

Early Field Experience Verification Form

First Name of applicant:

Cal State Apply ID (optional):

Last Name of applicant:

Credential Objective: Special Education Multiple Subject Single Subject

Number of hours of classroom experience completed:

Approximate number of students:

Elementary Grade Level or Single Subject area:

Total number of hours completed:

Please explain what types of activities applicant lead, facilitated or participated:

Major strengths or skills observed which would predict teaching success: (List and Comment):

Name of School:

Name of District:

County and State:

Signature of Authorized Personnel: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name of Authorized Personnel:

Position or Title:

Telephone Number:

E-mail address: