

State Rule 5 Policy

In response to Missouri House Bill 1711, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has developed the “Teacher’s Aide Rule” (Rule 5 CSR 80-805.040). This rule allows both undergraduate and post-baccalaureate teacher certification students the opportunity to earn academic credit for student teaching utilizing experience as a Teacher’s Aide or Paraprofessional ***in their content area and grade level.***

In order to be considered for credit for student teaching utilizing this rule, the experience must meet specific criteria as determined by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education:

- The student must be employed in a public school setting or state accredited non-public school setting. Experience at private schools that are not state accredited will not be considered.
- Experience must be ***in the same grade level and content area the student is pursuing for certification.***
- The employment experience in the school setting must be for a minimum of two (2) years concurrent with the student’s participation in the Drury School of Education and Child Development teacher certification program.
- Please contact the Field Experience Coordinator at 417-873-6685 or the Certification Officer at 417-873-7369 to determine if your experience meets the content area requirements for this rule. Students who do not meet the minimum criteria will not be approved to complete student teaching in this format. Students wishing to utilize this rule should contact the SECD by the deadline for the student teaching application (February 1 for Fall student teaching, August 1 for Spring student teaching) if they wish to use this rule.
- Conducted teaching activities must be comparable to those required of others in conventional student teaching placements and must demonstrate similar competencies. Students will be required to complete all necessary exams for certification.
- The teacher with whom the student serves meets the qualification for a cooperating teacher for Drury University (at least three years of classroom teaching experience and working toward or completed a master’s degree).
- The cooperating teacher has received training for observing and evaluating the student’s teaching practice through Drury, or through the school district’s mentor training program.
- The cooperating teacher completes and uploads required documentation into Drury’s online portfolio system in compliance with the Drury University School of Education and Child Development Assessment Plan.
- The student has been working with permission and under the authority of the Principal of the school or a designee.

Application Process for Rule 5 Student Teaching at Drury

How do I apply for student teaching under Rule 5? If you believe you meet all of the criteria for student teaching under Rule 5, you need to submit the following by the deadline for the application for student teaching (February 1 for Fall student teachers, August 1 for Spring student teachers).

1. Submit an online application for Student Teaching by the required deadline.
2. Write a letter requesting permission to student teach under Rule 5. This letter should include the following information (this documentation is typically several pages long, and must be complete and thorough to be considered):
 - a. Dates of employment, school district name, address and phone number
 - b. Grade level and content area you will be teaching
 - c. Name of supervising teacher (if teacher's aide) and how many years that person has been teaching in that school district as a fully certified teacher.
 - d. Describe in detail your daily responsibilities. If you are teaching different subjects during the day, include all subjects and the amount of time each day you teach each subject.
 - e. Describe any extra-curricular responsibilities you have at the school. Examples include: lunch room duty, bus duty, playground duty, advising student groups, field trip supervision, professional development workshops and training, etc.
3. You must also submit a letter of confirmation from your principal and supervising teacher stating that they have read the documentation you are providing and agree that you have accurately describe your current responsibilities.

All documentation should be sent to:

Coordinator of Field Experiences—Drury University School of Education and Child Development

900 North Benton

Springfield, MO 65802

If I am approved, what happens next?

If your request is approved, you will enroll in EDUC 476/477/478 as appropriate. You will also meet with the Coordinator of Field Experiences, the Certification Officer, and the SECD Dean to develop a contract indicating how you will fulfill all student teaching requirements.

During your student teaching semester, you will be required to complete the following:

- Attend all required student teacher meetings on campus
- Complete a weekly journal
- Log all hours as appropriate
- Spend at least 5 hours per week in a classroom planning or collaborating with a qualified cooperating teacher
- Complete a minimum of 5 lessons per week in the classroom
- Upload all appropriate documentation to the online portfolio
- The cooperating teacher and university supervisor upload appropriate documentation to the online portfolio

Questions about Rule 5 should be directed to the SECD:

Dr. Natalie Precise, Dean, nprecise@drury.edu

Sherri Peterson, Coordinator of Field Experiences, speterson008@drury.edu

Ali Geren, Certification Officer, ageren@drury.edu