

March 15, 2026

TO: Clinical Teachers & Administrators
Subject: Clinical Practice – Undergraduate Final Term III

Thank you for your support of a Western Oregon University Teacher Candidate. We want to provide you with some information that will be helpful to you as you work with your Teacher Candidate for the spring term while they complete their full-time student teaching.

Our Clinical Teacher Education Program is a three-term preparation program; this is the third term of your Teacher Candidate's Clinical Teaching.

Teacher Candidate Expectations

The Teacher Candidate will plan, teach, and assess lessons for an extended time and with greater responsibility during their final clinical experience. The expectations are dependent on the placement level.

Elementary Candidates should be responsible for at least half of the Clinical Teacher's schedule throughout the term and take full responsibility for the full day as 'the teacher of record' for a minimum of 15 consecutive days (approximately three weeks). We encourage the co-teaching model; during the fifteen days of full-time responsibility the lead responsibility should shift to the Teacher Candidate.

Middle School and High School Candidates should be responsible for at least half of the Clinical Teacher's schedule throughout the term. If there are class periods where you as the Cooperating Teacher are the 'lead teacher', then the Teacher Candidate should take an active role and co-teach/assist within those classes.

Additionally candidates will be writing a 7-10 day unit of study. Candidates may need some guidance gathering student data, planning lessons, and creating necessary materials but should need far less feedback and support from you as a Term III candidate.

Key Dates

The spring term clinical practice dates are March 30th- June 5th.

Next Steps

➤ Schedule time with your Teacher Candidate to review the description of Roles and Responsibilities in their clinical syllabus. A discussion of these with your Teacher Candidate will allow both of you to be clear about the expectations of

the term.

➤ Watch your email for a message from WOU that will include a link to observation forms and evaluation documents.

➤ Watch your email for a message from your Teacher Candidate's University Supervisor, who will be contacting you to arrange a zoom meeting with you and your Teacher Candidate. In this meeting they will discuss the term requirements and answer any questions you may have—this may also be completed via an email conversation.

On behalf of the Dean and faculty of the College of Education at Western Oregon University, we want to thank you for your role in the preparation of these prospective teachers. Our program would not function without your support.

Sincerely,

Anna Cottom
Clinical Placement Coordinator
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The spring term clinical practice dates are March 31st-June 6th.

