

SIU Carbondale has always focused on providing a quality education in a safe and welcoming environment. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, planning for fall 2020 has incorporated a special emphasis on the health and safety of our community.

The following FAQs address The Office of Teacher Education's response to COVID specific to teacher education programs and clinical experiences. Information is subject to change due to the rapidly changing situation. Please revisit this site regularly.

## **ADMISSIONS**

### **Can I apply for admissions to a TEP and submit my application without coming into the office?**

Yes. Our application is available online at <https://teachereducation.siu.edu/>. Once it is completed you can email it to [tep@siu.edu](mailto:tep@siu.edu)

### **I need to meet with my academic advisor to register for classes. Do I need to come into their office for an appointment?**

No. Advisors are available for appointments over the phone or through email. See the following link for contact information for your advisor - <https://advisement.siu.edu/advisors/>

### **Where can I get more information regarding admissions to TEP?**

You can call the Office of Teacher Education at 618-453-2354 or email [tep@siu.edu](mailto:tep@siu.edu)

## **CLINICAL PLACEMENTS**

### **Will I be placed in a public school setting for my clinical experience?**

For all candidates enrolled in a 302, 303, 400 or student teaching, clinical experiences will be with an assigned mentor cooperating teacher. Candidates will follow the instructional modality that their cooperating teacher/school is using. We will NOT assign candidates enrolled in a 301 clinical to a mentor cooperating teacher in a public school setting. EDUC 301 candidates will be using the Accomplished Teaching, Learning, and Schools (ATLAS) video library instead of a public school setting.

### **What instructional modalities are P-12 schools using this fall?**

Many schools will begin the school year fully remote. This means you will be working with your mentor cooperating teacher to provide instruction to students through virtual learning platforms. Some schools will use a hybrid model alternating days that students come in person to school while others learn from home. In this case you may be teaching in person at the school or remotely. If the school delivers all instruction in person, you would follow that model. Most schools hope to return to in-person instruction, but will only do so when it is safe for students, teachers and staff. Contact your clinical supervisor if you have concerns about your clinical placement.

### **As an EDUC 301 candidate, what do I need to know about ATLAS?**

The ATLAS program is part of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (<https://www.nbpts.org>). You will be able to complete the EDUC 301 requirements completely online. You will be assigned an SIU Clinical Supervisor who will work with you on specific cases. You will learn

how to navigate the ATLAS platform during the last session of the technology sessions of EDUC 301 (week 5 of fall semester).

**How can I find out what safety precautions my placement site is using?**

All of our partner schools are following recommended guidelines for safety precautions including social distancing, mask wearing, hand washing, and cleaning and sanitizing high contact areas. We will review these procedures during your clinical orientation during the first week of the semester before you begin your clinical experiences. For more information on your placement site, please contact your clinical supervisor.

**What safety precautions should I be following in my placement? What about outside my placement?**

You should follow the safety precautions your placement site has in place while you are present in the building or at any school-related events. While outside your placement, you need to follow CDC guidelines for minimizing exposure including maintaining social distancing, wearing a mask in public places, avoiding large gatherings, and frequently washing your hands.

**What is remote clinical supervision?**

Due to Covid-19 some schools are limiting the number of visitors allowed in the school building. This means that clinical supervision may be done remotely. If remote clinical supervision is used your clinical supervisor will observe and evaluate your lesson presentations through an online video meeting platform instead of being physically present in the classroom. In some situations, remote supervision might consist of video recording a lesson presentation for the clinical supervisor to view and evaluate at a later time. Remote clinical supervision is similar to in-person clinical supervision in terms of number and quality of observations, evaluations, and formal and informal contacts.

**Do I need specific technology for remote supervision?**

You will need to have access to reliable internet connection and to a video meeting platform (e.g., FaceTime or Zoom).

**Will I have access to my placement site's online learning platforms?**

You will have access to online learning platforms as deemed appropriate to participate in your placement by your cooperating teacher and school administrators. Contact your clinical supervisor for school specific information.

**What do I do if my placement site changes modalities e.g., goes from hybrid to fully remote or from remote to hybrid?**

In the event that your placement site changes modalities during your clinical experience, you will follow the instructional modality being used by your cooperating teacher.

**What should I do if I'm not feeling well?**

If you feel sick, have a fever, or are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 –STAY HOME AND CONTACT YOUR Clinical Supervisor IMMEDIATELY!

**What happens if a student or teacher in my classroom tests positive for Covid-19?**

Someone from the health department may call you to let you know that you may have been exposed to COVID-19. If you were within 6 feet of the person who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more, you had direct physical contact with the person (hugged), you shared eating or drinking utensils, or they sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you, contact your clinical supervisor IMMEDIATELY and plan to quarantine at home for 14 days. Monitor your health.

**What happens if a student or my cooperating teacher has known exposure for Covid-19?**

If you have been around someone who was identified as a close contact to a person with COVID-19, closely monitor yourself for any [symptoms of COVID-19](#). You do not need to self-quarantine unless you develop symptoms or if the person identified as a close contact develops COVID-19.

**What happens if I have known exposure or test positive for Covid-19?**

If you test positive for Covid-19 or are contacted by the county health department regarding exposure, you should follow the guidelines given for testing, quarantine and self-isolation. You should contact your clinical supervisor IMMEDIATELY!

**What if my placement site temporarily goes completely remote due to an outbreak of Covid-19?**

You will continue to work with your cooperating teacher with planning and implementing remote instruction. If there is an extended calendar interruption, you will be held harmless and the Office of Teacher Education will work with you on completing your clinical requirements.

**I am an EDUC 303 or 400 candidate. Do I need to take my content exam? If so, when should I take plan on taking it?**

At this point all EDUC 303 and EDUC 400 candidates need to pass their content exam(s) prior to entering their student teaching placement in spring 2021. We encourage you to take it as soon as possible as seats may be limited at some testing centers. For more information regarding content exams and to schedule a test day please visit <https://www.il.nesinc.com/>.

**Will I be coming to campus for meetings, clinical orientations, or seminars?**

Due to the restriction on large gatherings, we will hold all meetings via ZOOM. We will send you an email and the appropriate link for any meeting you are required to attend.

**How can I stay up-to-date about changes or get more information?**

You can call the Office of Teacher Education at 618-453-2354 or email [tep@siu.edu](mailto:tep@siu.edu)

You can access the SIU Coronavirus Information at <https://siu.edu/coronavirus/>

Stay safe and well!

