

GUIDELINES FOR WAIVING PRACTICUM



Mild/Moderate Intervention Specialist Program UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

Who can consider waiving Practicum (EST 377)?

1. In order to petition to waive practicum, you must have experience for at least one year in a classroom with students who have mild or moderate disabilities. Experience as a paraprofessional or instructional assistant will count toward this requirement.

Who can consider waiving Student Teaching EST (487)?

1. Student Teaching will not be considered for a waiver at the undergraduate level.

What do you do to waive the practicum experience?

1. Obtain a College of Education and Human Services petition from the Education Student Services Center in JH 170
2. Fill it out with all the specific details of your experience(s), including your position title, the age group you taught, the types of disabilities student in the classroom had, and where, when, and for how long you taught.
3. Attach two letters from individuals who are (or were) directly responsible for supervising you, on official letterhead and signed with the writers' titles. The letters should include the following:
 - a. Your position
 - b. Length of time in position
 - c. Responsibilities
 - d. Age range of children
 - e. Disability range of children
 - f. A statement of your competencies in the following areas:
 - i. Using appropriate teaching methods, strategies, and materials
 - ii. Planning for students
 - iii. Implementing curriculum
 - iv. Assisting to evaluate children
 - v. Establishing warm, supportive relationships with children which facilitate the growth of competence
 - vi. Assisting to adapt teaching strategies to meet learners' diverse needs
 - vii. Guiding children's behavior appropriately, individually and in groups

- viii. Interacting professionally and positively with other professionals and parents
 - ix. Implementing Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
 - x. Implementing behavior management plans
4. Submit the petition to your advisor by August 15 or January 15 of the semester before you would be completing student teaching. When you apply for student teaching be sure to note that you are petitioning to waive practicum. (Online applications can be submitted between January 15 and February 15 for fall field experiences and between August 15 and September 20 for spring and summer internships.)

What else should I keep in mind?

1. Remember to complete all applicable portfolio requirements. If you are waiving practicum, you must have a TaskStream Checkpoint 2 completed (by your advisor) so that you will be permitted to begin your student teaching.
2. In addition, you must have taken your Ohio Assessment for Educators (OAE) exams prior to student teaching.