# Mentor-Cooperating Teacher Handbook

James I. Perkins College of Education



Stephen F. Austin State University

2020-2021

#### Mentor / Cooperating Teacher Information

Thank you for mentoring an SFA clinical teacher! This information packet is intended to provide answers to any questions you may have about the clinical teaching mentoring process. Additionally, contact information is included for all SFA staff involved in clinical teaching. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any of your questions.

#### What to Expect:

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Educators, and the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges require SFA to collect data for each teacher candidate. A component of being a cooperating teacher requires you to complete and submit requested forms through our online data management system, LiveText (www.LiveText.com). When a clinical teacher was assigned to you as a mentor, LiveText automatically generated an account for you. You should have received an email FROM LIVETEXT (not SFA) in your school email account with a username and password. If you cannot find this, please check your junk or spam folder. IF you still do not find this, please contact our office at livetext@sfasu.edu.

Additionally, there are resources available to guide you online at our website: www.sfasu.edu/education

The SFA Field Supervisor should ask you to complete the following forms in LiveText:

- Final Dispositions by Mentor-Cooperating Teacher
- Candidate Performance Evaluation by Mentor-Cooperating Teacher
- Addendum (This is dependent on the program. Not all programs collect this. If you are to complete it, it will appear in your LiveText assessments.)

Additionally, the SFA Field Supervisor will formally observe the Clinical Teacher, and ask for your assistance in completion of the following forms:

• T-TESS Informal/Formal Observation assessments.

Clinical Teacher evaluation is a cooperative task shared by the Clinical Teacher, the Field Supervisor, and the Cooperating Teacher/Mentor. Much of the evaluation by the Cooperating Teacher/Mentor is informal, and thus, the Clinical Teacher may gain direction for action from brief, daily evaluations. The Field Supervisor will complete informal and formal observations in accordance to the Texas Administrative Code (TAC 228.35).

Each observation must meet the following requirements:

- Individualized pre-observation conference
  - Face-to-face is NOT required
  - No minimum duration required
  - Assessment must be completed in LiveText FEM for documentation purposes
- Formal Observation
  - o Per TAC 228.35, formal observation due dates are NOT flexible
  - Must be 45 minutes in duration
  - Two observations cannot occur in one day
- Interactive post-conference
  - Face-to-face is NOT required
  - No minimum duration required
  - Assessment must be completed in LiveText FEM for documentation purposes

NOTE: Initial contact with assigned candidate must occur within the first three weeks of assignment. Contact may be made by telephone, email or other electronic communication.

Per TAC 228.35(e)(2)(A)(iii), Clinical teaching is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor and cooperating teacher recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the fields supervisor or cooperating teacher.

#### Responsibilities of the Mentor or Cooperating Teacher:

You, the Mentor or Cooperating Teacher, are one of the most important and influential people in the preparation of professional teachers. This influence is critical to the teaching profession. Cooperating Teachers are selected because of their personal experiences within the classroom and their willingness to mentor our future educators and complete the required documents.

Cooperating Teacher Responsibilities Include:

- Sharing information and guiding the clinical teacher.
- ◆ Mentoring the students in developing strategies to independently and effectively develop lesson plans.
- ◆ Allowing the clinical teacher to observe, analyze, question, plan, and teach lessons during the clinical teaching experience.
- ◆ Remaining in the classroom to monitor the clinical teacher.
- ◆ Guiding the clinical teacher to think reflectively about lessons taught.
- ◆ Providing specific, constructive feedback for the purpose of professional growth.
- Completing the required forms for SFA.
- ◆ Taking students seriously. A question of problem that seems trivial to you is new ground for clinical teachers.
- ◆ Nurture self-sufficiency. Utilize your personal teaching experiences to encourage confidence and independent thinking.
- ◆ Help students develop professionalism by providing specific praise as well as constructive feedback.

#### **Important Topics:**

ABSENCES: Clinical Teachers must call the placement school prior to an absence. All absences beyond two must be made up. Arriving early/staying late does not accrue nor can the time be used in place of an absence.

ATTENDANCE: Clinical teachers are required to maintain the same daily schedule as the Cooperating Teacher (which includes professional assignments that extend beyond the normal school day).

#### Please note:

Approval for the release of a clinical teacher from attendance is the responsibility of the Cooperating Teacher, the Field Supervisor, and may involve the Clinical Teaching Coordinator. It is NOT at the discretion of the SFA Clinical Teacher to determine acceptable absences.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT: Clinical teachers will not administer corporal punishment. If school personnel determine corporal punishment is necessary, it must be administered by a district employee, NEVER a clinical teacher.

PROFESSIONALISM: Clinical teachers adhere to ethical standards of the teaching profession, to SFA policies for university students, and to the policies of the school where they are assigned.

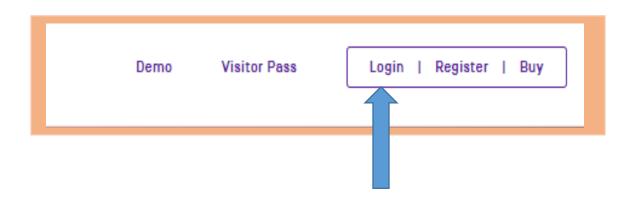
SUBSTITUTING: Clinical teachers may serve as substitute teachers only after successfully completing six weeks of clinical teaching. Clinical teachers may substitute for a maximum of five days: 2 days unpaid followed by 3 days paid, as approved by the district.

### **FEM Instructions**

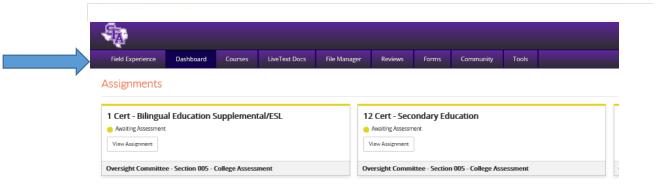
On the following pages you will find screenshots with step-by-step instructions for using the LiveText Field Experience Module (FEM). Should you have any issues or concerns, please contact us at <a href="mailto:livetext@sfasu.edu">livetext@sfasu.edu</a>.

#### LiveText- Assessment

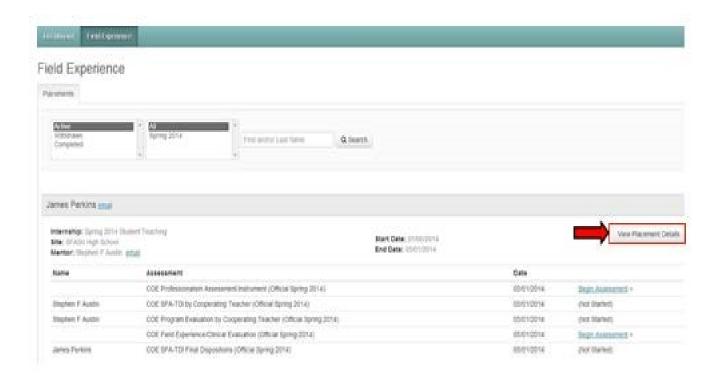
1. Login to LiveText (https://www.livetext.com). You should have received and email containing your LiveText username and password. Use that information to log in. \*Note: If you did not receive an email, send an email to livetext@sfasu.edu or 936-468-2395.



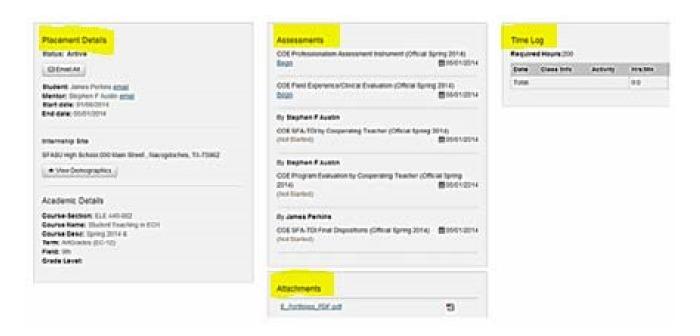
2. Click on the "Field Experience" tab in the top left corner of your screen. \*Note: if for some reason you do not see this tab email livetext@sfasu.edu.



- 3. You will see a new page containing your student's names and some of their placement information.
  - \*Note: Livetext terminology states "Internship" regardless of student. Please disregard.
- 4. Click on "View Placement Details" on the far right of your screen.



5. You will see a series of boxes:



- -Box 1: <u>Placement Details</u> Contains that particular student's placement information (student, mentor, site, etc.)
- -Box 2: **Assessments** Contains all assessments associated with this student's placement.
  - Students need to complete the following:
    - Program Evaluation by Candidate O Final Candidate Dispositions by Candidate
  - Mentor/Cooperating teacher needs to complete the following:
    - Final Dispositions by Mentor-Cooperating Teacher Candidate
       Performance Evaluation by Mentor-Cooperating Teacher Addendum
       (depending on student's certification area)

- Field Supervisor needs to complete following:
  - Final Dispositions by Field Supervisor
  - T-TESS Pre and Post Observation Conference Informal/Formal (rubrics for each observation)
  - o TESS Informal/Formal Observation (rubric for each observation)
    - Single Assignment
    - Flexible observation T-TESS Informal Observation
    - First through third observation T-TESS Formal Observation
    - Split Assignment
    - For each of the two placements:
    - First and second observation T-TESS Formal Observation
    - Third Formal T-TESS Formal Observation and Flexible T-Tess Informal Observation

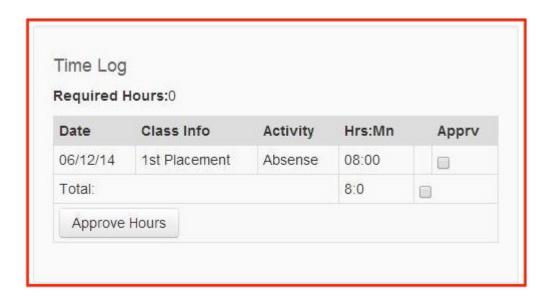
-Box 3: *Time Log* - Contains a time log where students will need to enter the following:

- Orientation
- First contact with Field Supervisor
- First and last day on campus
- Absences
- O Make-up dates

These entries will need to be approved (within FEM) by the Field Supervisor.

To approve Time Log entries (see image below), check the boxes under "Apprv" and to the right of the time log entry. Then, click "Approve Hours" below the entries. These will need to be approved before the completion of their clinical teaching.

\*Note: students are allowed only 2 absences (every 2 late arrivals or dismissals = 1 absence). Every absences after that will need to be made up. After 5 absences the student will fail.



-Box 4: <u>Attachments</u> – By the end of the assignment, the student should have uploaded the following attachments:

Lesson plans for each observation

\*Note: if you are not seeing Box 4 it is because the student has not uploaded anything.

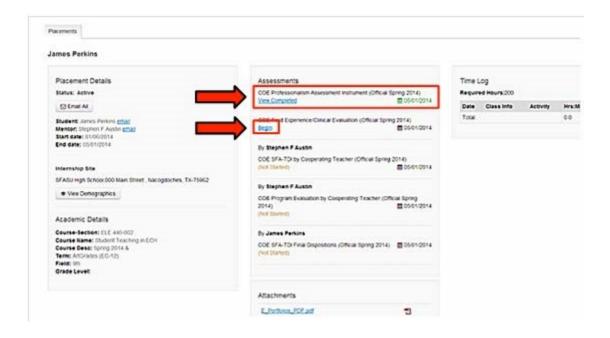
6. Click on "Begin Assessment" in Box 2 for any grading rubric.



- 7. You will see a grading rubric named "Final Dispositions by Mentor-Cooperating Teacher".
- 8. Evaluate the student by clicking on the appropriate section (Strongly Agree, Somewhat Agree, Cannot Determine, Somewhat Disagree, Strongly Disagree).
- 9. If you are not completely finished filling out the rubric and wish to come back to it late, click "Save".
- 10. If you are completely finished filling out the rubric, click "Submit Assessment".



- 11. You will now see the assessment as completed.
- 12. Follow steps 6-11 for all assessments.



## **Clinical Practice Schedule Model for All Assignments:**

## EC-6 MLG Secondary Single Placement Secondary All-Level

# Clinical Practice Schedule Model for EC-6 Split Assignments

	Clinical Teacher Activities
First Assignment	
1	<ul> <li>Learn children's and relevant school personnel names</li> <li>Learn campus</li> <li>Learn daily/weekly schedule</li> <li>Observe teacher, noting how he/she moves children from one place to another Follow children (PE/computer lab/library/music/lunch etc.)</li> <li>Eat lunch with children</li> <li>Assist with morning and dismissal routines</li> <li>Assist children and cooperating teacher</li> <li>Request to execute read-aloud or basic instructional activities</li> <li>Shadow teacher (go everywhere she/he goes)</li> </ul>
2	<ul> <li>Continue Week 1 activities</li> <li>Observe teacher, noting how he/she transitions children from one activity to another         Assist with reading and writing workshops         Guided reading, word wall, etc.         Journals, editing, mini-lessons, etc.     </li> <li>Take children to and from places</li> <li>Secure videotape permission if doing optional videotaping</li> </ul>
3	<ul> <li>Continue Week 2 Activities</li> <li>Begin teaching, reading and writing         <ul> <li>Teach at least one reading lesson</li> <li>Teach at least one writing lesson</li> <li>Begin teaching math and science</li> </ul> </li> <li>Work with a variety of small groups of children</li> </ul>

	Submit video documents to field supervisor if video recording (optional)
4	<ul> <li>Continue Week 3 activities</li> <li>Maintain routine responsibilities</li> <li>Take children to and from places</li> <li>Eat lunch with children</li> <li>Assume full responsibility for small group instruction</li> <li>Assume full responsibility for teaching math and science</li> <li>Video record teaching and review with Self- Assessment of a lesson form (optional)</li> </ul>
5	<ul> <li>Continue Week 4 Activities</li> <li>Begin Teaching social studies</li> </ul>
6	<ul> <li>Continue Week 4 and Week 5 activities</li> <li>May assume full responsibility for children and classroom</li> <li>Write weekly lesson plans (like teachers write to turn in to principals)</li> </ul>

	Continue Week 6 activities
	<ul> <li>Assume full responsibility for children and classroom</li> </ul>
7	<ul> <li>Write weekly lesson plans (like teachers write to turn into principal).</li> </ul>
	Observe one full day in each age/grade level in which you are not assigned
	Observe teaching in other classrooms
8	<ul> <li>Complete observation sheets for each observation and submit daily</li> </ul>
Second Assignment	NOTE: Check clinical teaching calendar for exact week of switch to second assignment
	Learn children's names
	Learn daily/weekly schedule
	Learn and assist with daily routines
	<ul> <li>Follow children (P.E., computer lab, library, music, lunch, etc.)</li> </ul>
	Eat lunch with children
	<ul> <li>Assist with morning and dismissal routines</li> </ul>
_	Assist children and cooperating teacher
9	<ul> <li>Observe teacher, noting how she moves children from one place to another</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Shadow teacher (go everywhere she/he goes)</li> </ul>
	Begin working with small groups
	<ul> <li>Work with reading and writing workshops: - Guided reading, word wall, etc.</li> <li>Journals, editing, mini-lessons, etc.</li> </ul>
	Continue Week 9 activities
	Begin teaching math and science
10	Begin teaching reading and writing - Teach at least two reading lessons - Teach
10	at least two writing lessons
	Continue Week 10 activities
	<ul> <li>Assume full responsibility for teaching math and science</li> </ul>

11	
12	<ul> <li>Continue Week 11 activities</li> <li>Begin teaching social studies</li> </ul>
13	Continue Week 12 activities
14	Assume full responsibility for children and classroom
	Submit lesson plans to cooperating teacher/principal
15	<ul> <li>Assume full responsibility for children and classroom</li> <li>Submit lesson plans to cooperating teacher/principal</li> </ul>
	ATTEND SFA JOB FAIR

# Clinical Practice Schedule Model for MLG 4-8 Assignments

Block	Responsibilities of Clinical Teacher
A Weeks 1-3	<ul> <li>✓ Observations, learn names, learn school, handle administrative duties</li> <li>✓ Work one-on-one with students</li> <li>✓ Continue as before, adding co-teaching lessons and begin individual lessons</li> </ul>
Weeks I 5	✓ Increase amount of individual lessons and planning solo units
B Weeks 4-6	<ul> <li>✓ Begin full time, full charge teaching.</li> <li>✓ Video Lesson (optional)</li> <li>✓ Continue as before</li> </ul>
C Weeks 7-9	✓ Continue as before
D Weeks 10-12	✓ Continue as before
E Weeks 13-15	<ul> <li>✓ Continue as before</li> <li>✓ Complete solo unit(s), begin more co-teach lessons</li> <li>✓ Continue to co-teach as transition to completion of clinical teaching.</li> <li>✓ Visit other classrooms as permitted.</li> </ul>
	✓ Attend SFASU Career Fair

# Clinical Practice Schedule Model for Secondary Assignments

## **One Placement (Secondary)**

Вьоск	WEEK	RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLINICAL TEACHER		
А	1	Observations, call roll, learn names, learn school, handle administrative duties, work one-on-one with students		
А	2	Continue as before adding co-teaching lessons and being individual lessons		
А	3	Increase amount of individual lessons and begin planning solo units		
В	4	Being full time, full charge teaching		
В	5	Continue as before		
С	6	Continue as before		
С	7	Continue as before		
D	8	Continue as before		
D	9	Continue as before		
E	10	Continue as before		
E	11	Complete solo unit(s), begin more co-teaching lessons		
E	12	Continue to co-teach as transition to completion of clinical teaching		

## **Clinical Practice Process**

## Two Placements (All-Level)

Вьоск	WEEK	RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLINICAL TEACHER		
A	1	Observations, call roll, learn names, learn school, handle administrative duties, work one- on-one with students		
А	2	Continue as before adding co-teaching lessons and being individual lessons		
А	3	Begin full time, full charge teaching		
В	4	Continue as before		
В	5	Complete solo unit(s), begin more co-teach lessons		
С	6	Continue to co-teach as transition to completion of clinical teaching		
С	7	Observations, call roll, learn names, learn school, handle administrative duties, work one- on-one with students		
D	8	Continue as before adding co-teaching lessons and being individual lessons		
D	9	Begin full time, full charge teaching		
E	10	Continue as before		
E	11	Complete solo unit(s), begin more co-teach lessons		
Е	12	Continue to co-teach as transition to completion of clinical teaching		

## **Topics and Strategies for Lessons**

TOPIC	STRATEGIES
Active Learning	<ul> <li>Cooperative Learning</li> <li>Group Work</li> <li>Discussions</li> <li>Projects</li> <li>Hands-on Activities</li> <li>Manipulatives</li> </ul>
Differentiated Instruction	<ul> <li>Learning Styles</li> <li>Multiple Intelligences</li> <li>By Interest</li> <li>By Ability and Readiness</li> </ul>
Models of Assessment	<ul> <li>Authenticate Assessments</li> <li>Performance Assessments</li> <li>Portfolios</li> <li>Projects</li> <li>Rubrics</li> <li>Evaluating existing assessments</li> </ul>
Classroom Management	<ul> <li>Praise</li> <li>Redirection of students</li> <li>Use of rules and consequences</li> <li>Organization of activities</li> </ul>
Diversity of Students	<ul> <li>Modifications for students with special needs Use</li> <li>of IEPs</li> <li>Tolerance of all students</li> <li>Incorporation of diverse examples and concepts</li> </ul>

Reading	<ul> <li>Reading in the content area</li> <li>Pre-reading and post-reading strategies (e.g. KWLs)</li> </ul>
Curriculum	<ul> <li>Appropriate use of the TEKS</li> <li>Well-written lesson plans</li> <li>Appropriate materials for content and age level</li> </ul>
Other Duties	<ul> <li>Attending faculty meetings</li> <li>Assisting cooperating teacher</li> <li>Supporting school functions and events</li> </ul>

# Professional Dispositions, Intervention, and Program Continuation Policy

# Stephen F. Austin State University James I. Perkins College of Education Office of Assessment and Accountability Professional Dispositions, Intervention, and Program Continuation Policy

The Perkins College of Education Educator Preparation Program (EPP) is responsible for preparing candidates who have the required knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions to become effective educators. Educator preparation providers establish and monitor attributes and dispositions beyond academic ability that candidates must demonstrate at admissions and during the program (CAEP Standard 3.3, 2016).

Prior to admission to the EPP, during coursework, and in campus and field experiences, faculty will assess the candidate's demonstration of these professional dispositions and provide feedback to facilitate progress.

Within any education or major area course, should a candidate demonstrate unsatisfactory professional dispositions, the following procedure will be followed:

- 1. Faculty members work with all candidates using informal attempts to change behaviors that include but are not limited to the following: providing guidance, observation, anecdotal records, differentiated instruction, and meetings with the student.
- 2. If the concern is not resolved, the candidate will be referred to the Departmental Program Continuation Review Panel. The Departmental Program Continuation Review Panel is comprised of the Department Chair, the Program Coordinator, and faculty appointed by the Department Chair, including but not limited to the faculty member reporting the unsatisfactory dispositions. This panel will interview the candidate and complete a Candidate Program Continuation Plan.
- 3. If the concern is not resolved, the candidate will be referred to the Professional Educators' Program Continuation Review Panel. This panel is comprised of at least three members from the Professional Educator's Council, including but not limited to the Associate Dean of Student and Faculty Affairs and faculty members with at least one representative from the student's program and at least one representative from an outside department. The Professional Educators' Program Continuation Review Panel will interview the candidate and determine:
- a. If the candidate may continue in the program and meet conditions established by the panel, or
- b. The candidate has not demonstrated satisfactory improvement in accordance with the Candidate Program Continuation Plan and is removed from the Educator Certification Program.

- 4. Candidates may appeal the decision of the Professional Educators' Program Continuation Review Panel to the Dean of the College of Education within five class days. The following documentation is required:
- a. Copy of Candidate Program Continuation Plan
- b. Formal letter with supporting evidence as to why the candidate should not be removed for the Educator Certification Program.
- c. The dean will respond in a timely manner.
- d. Any further appeal will follow policy A-2: Academic Appeal and begin at step 4.

For instances where the educational learning environment is threatened, the candidate may be removed from the classroom pending prompt review by the Professional Educators' Program Continuation Review Panel. (Policy D- 34: Student Discipline)

# `Stephen F. Austin State University James I. Perkins College of Education

To:

## Candidate Program Continuation Form (Part A)

From:\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Preparation Handbook and individual department	s set forth requirements for prospective educators and the
expectations held for all educators. The purpose of	f this continuation form is to inform you that the following
professional dispositions are not being met or are a	leficient as indicated:
In the SFA Classroom:	At the Practicum / Clinical Teaching Site:
Poor Punctuality	Lack of integrity in professional performance
Poor work quality	Poor punctuality
Dominates class discussion / group activities	
Volatile / overly emotional	Poor adherence to hours required of cooperating teachers
Lack of participation in class activity	Inconsistent daily preparation to teach
Assignments not returned in a timelymanner	Unacceptable language with children / youth
Inappropriate behavior that distracts or disrupts the class	requires excessive guidance
Poor attendance	Displays non-professional behavior
Negative attitude	Evidence of cheating
Inappropriate comments	Inappropriate social interaction with pupils /teachers
Missing assignments	Inappropriate physical contact with pupils / teachers
Inattentiveness (sleeping, texting,etc)	Failure to be open to new ideas
Hostility to instructor	Displays hostilities toward teachers
Lack of interest	Failure to interact with <u>all</u> learners
Failure to meet class requirements	Lack of interest in teaching
Hygiene issues	Lack of empathy, interest, or care for students
Unable to accept criticism	Lack of self-control in the classroom setting
Unacceptable language	Volatile / overly emotional reactions under stress
Cheating / Plagiarism	Deficient in instructional skills
Lack of empathy / interest in teaching	Lack of knowledge of content
_Other:	Does not participate in public school campus activities
	Refusal to accept constructive suggestions
	Does not work well with others
	Displays negative attitudes
	Does not take initiative in group projects / work
	Dominates group discussion / activities
	Does not complete individual assignment/work for group project
	Unable to interact effectively with children/youth collaboration
	Ineffective use of written / oral language
	Hygiene issues
	Does not willingly help other candidates
	Failure to implement constructive suggestions
	Other:

# Stephen F. Austin State University James I. Perkins College of Education Candidate Program Continuation Form (Part B)

Goals to be addressed	Activities to facilitate improvement	Evidence to determine improvement	Timeline	Follow up notes	Date Completed
1.					
2.					
3.					

 Candidate Demonstrated Satisfactory Improvement
 Satisfactory Improvement by Candidate was not demonstrated;
-Referred to Professional Educator's Program Continuation Review Panel