

James I. Perkins College of Education

Professional Dispositions Statement for Educator Preparation

Professional dispositions are defined by the Council for Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) as “the habits of professional action and moral commitments that underlie an educator’s performance” (InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards, p. 6.). At SFA, we are committed to preparing educators whose professional dispositions reflect the core values of the Perkins College of Education, therefore professional educator candidates admitted to the educator preparation are expected to exhibit the following:

- **Academic excellence.** This is demonstrated by:
 - critical, reflective, and creative thinking
 - full and responsible engagement in coursework
 - strong communication skills

The following characteristics are indicative of the necessary professional dispositions in this area to be admitted to educator preparation:

- ✓ I regularly attend my classes, and I am on time.
- ✓ I am prepared for class.
- ✓ I actively participate.
- ✓ I accept input from others and ask questions when I do not understand.
- ✓ I submit quality assignments on time.
- ✓ I exhibit strong communication skills.
- ✓ I seek to extend my learning beyond the classroom.
- ✓ I am willing to examine, question and develop my own ideas about presented information.

- **Potential for becoming a life-long learner.** This is demonstrated by:
 - establishing habits of mind representative of a professional educator

The following characteristics are indicative of the necessary professional dispositions in this area to be admitted to educator preparation:

- ✓ I display curiosity and interest in my studies.
- ✓ I seek to learn more about being a professional educator.
- ✓ I engage in learning beyond the minimum requirements of the course.
- ✓ I use professional resources to enhance knowledge.
- ✓ I am committed to continuous learning after the completion of my degree.
- ✓ I am committed to continuous experiential learning and development related to my career.

- **Collaboration and shared decision-making.** This is demonstrated by:
 - working effectively with peers on group projects
 - engaging in constructive dialogue in classes
 - responding positively to feedback from instructors
 - using positive conflict resolution strategies

The following characteristics are indicative of the necessary professional dispositions in this area to be admitted to educator preparation:

- ✓ I seek out and consider other points of view.
- ✓ I am skilled at using direct and indirect communication with others.
- ✓ I am skilled at assessing direct and indirect communication with others.
- ✓ I receive feedback or criticism from others in a professional manner and use this information for improvement.
- ✓ I value and contribute to the group process.

- **Openness to new ideas, diversity, innovation, and change.** This is demonstrated by:
 - positivity to working with ALL people, in new and different situations
 - consideration of other ideas and points of view
 - embracing change

The following characteristics are indicative of the necessary professional dispositions in this area to be admitted to educator preparation:

- ✓ I treat everyone with respect.
- ✓ I seek to understand those who are not like me.
- ✓ I recognize my own biases.
- ✓ I consider new ideas in support of my growth as a professional educator.
- ✓ My actions indicate that I respect others' different viewpoints and invite others to safely share their views.

- **Integrity, responsibility, diligence, and ethical behavior.** This is demonstrated by:
 - knowledge of and adherence to the Texas Educators' Code of Ethics (TAC Title 19, Part 7, Chapter 242, Rule 247.2)
 - knowledge of and adherence to the SFA Student Academic Dishonesty Policy (4.1)

The following characteristics are indicative of the necessary professional dispositions in this area to be admitted to educator preparation:

- ✓ I understand what constitutes ethical and professional behavior.

- ✓ I recognize and approach situations with an understanding of ethical responsibility.
- ✓ I behave ethically and professionally at all times.
- ✓ I accept responsibility for my actions.
- ✓ I maintain confidentiality.

- **Service that enriches the community.** This is demonstrated by:
 - seeking opportunities to serve children / youth / families / community
 - seeking opportunities to serve the campus
 - seeking opportunities to serve the profession

The following characteristics are indicative of the necessary professional dispositions in this area to be admitted to educator preparation:

- ✓ I use my time and talents to serve in a way that enriches my professional growth and benefits others.
- ✓ I consciously make connections and create relationships with others in the community.

I have read and understand the professional dispositions statement for educator preparation. I understand that I must exhibit these professional dispositions, with or without accommodation, to be admitted and to complete the educator preparation program at SFA.

Signature

Date