

## BYU COVID-19 Exposure in Field Placements Policy

Schools and educators are currently functioning in the midst of a global pandemic and working with children in school settings carries a high level of responsibility. In response to these issues, the following guidelines are designed to address the COVID-19 pandemic concerns. Due to the volatility and contagious nature of the COVID-19 virus, all BYU teacher candidates in their field placements should consistently monitor their health and carefully follow social distancing and mitigation policies. Our school district partners are aware of the BYU Healthy Together app and teacher candidates should complete this app daily similarly to on-campus participation.

Teacher candidates who test positive for COVID-19, or who have been exposed to a person who tests positive for COVID-19, must adhere to BOTH the BYU COVID-19 policies as well as health guidelines set out by state and local health authorities and the school and school district involved. This may include self-isolation for extended periods of time. BYU teacher candidates are required to receive approval from the school district's COVID-19 point person before returning to field placements.

If such exposure or positive test occurs and causes the requisite break from face-to-face teaching, each candidate's teaching experience will then be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the director of the teacher education program in which the candidate is enrolled. Program directors are encouraged to meet with the college EPP and dean's office for further guidance.

This pandemic is a unique situation and these guidelines apply to COVID-19 only. Candidates are expected to meet all the competencies set out by the Utah State Board of Education as measured by the BYU EPP assessments. If, as a result of COVID-19, candidates experience an extended period of time away from teaching (either face-to-face or virtually) and are unable to meet the competencies and satisfactorily complete the assessments, additional time will be added to their student teaching experience.

Approved: 2 October 2020

Initials: 