




December  
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# Barriers to Bridges: Best Practices in Clinical Practice

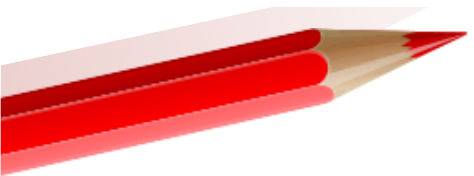
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# Clinical Practice...Defined



The term used to describe the culminating experience, clinical practice, is also referred to as a student teaching or internship, and those terms are used interchangeably. The term field experience refers to the experiences occurring prior to clinical practice, once a candidate is admitted and enrolled in the EPP.



# Practice

In theory there is no  
difference between  
theory and practice.  
In practice there is.

Yogi Berra

BrainyQuote®





## Standard 2


### Connecting Rules to Standards

Georgia Professional Standards Commission  
Standard for the Approval of Educator Preparation Providers and Program (August 2024)

The provider ensures effective partnerships and high-quality clinical practice are central to candidate preparation. These experiences are designed to develop candidate's knowledge, skills, and professional dispositions, and to demonstrate positive impact on all students' learning and development. High quality clinical practice offers candidates experiences in different settings and modalities, as well as with different groups of P-12 students, schools, families, and communities. Partners share responsibility to identify and address real problems of practice candidates experience in their engagement with P-12 students.

# Best Preparation



- 
- Organized and systematically designed and sequenced to increase the level of engagement of candidates with P-12 students.
  - Apply, reflect, expand knowledge and skills.
  - Opportunities to observe, practice, collaborate, and demonstrate knowledge, skills, and dispositions.
  - Active professional practice involving substantive work with B/P-12 students and B/P-12 Personnel.

# Understand the Rules

- Pre-service Certificate
- Grade Band Requirements
- Placement Site
- Placement Classroom
- Mentor Teacher

# Pre-service Certificate

Non-negotiable

GaPSC Rule 505-3-.01

- CANDIDATES COMPLETING FIELD/CLINICAL EXPERIENCES IN GEORGIA B/P-12 SCHOOLS **MUST** HOLD THE PRE-SERVICE CERTIFICATE PRIOR TO FIELDWORK THAT IS REQUIRED AS A PART OF ENROLLMENT IN THE PREPARATION PROGRAM.
- TO OBTAIN A PRESERVICE CERTIFICATE:
  - PASS GACE EDUCATOR ETHICS ASSESSMENT
  - ADMITTED INTO EPP LEADING TO INDUCTION CERT.
  - EPP CREATED FILE IN TPMS
  - CANDIDATE CLAIM PROGRAM IN MYPSC
  - SUCCESSFUL CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK FROM GAPSC

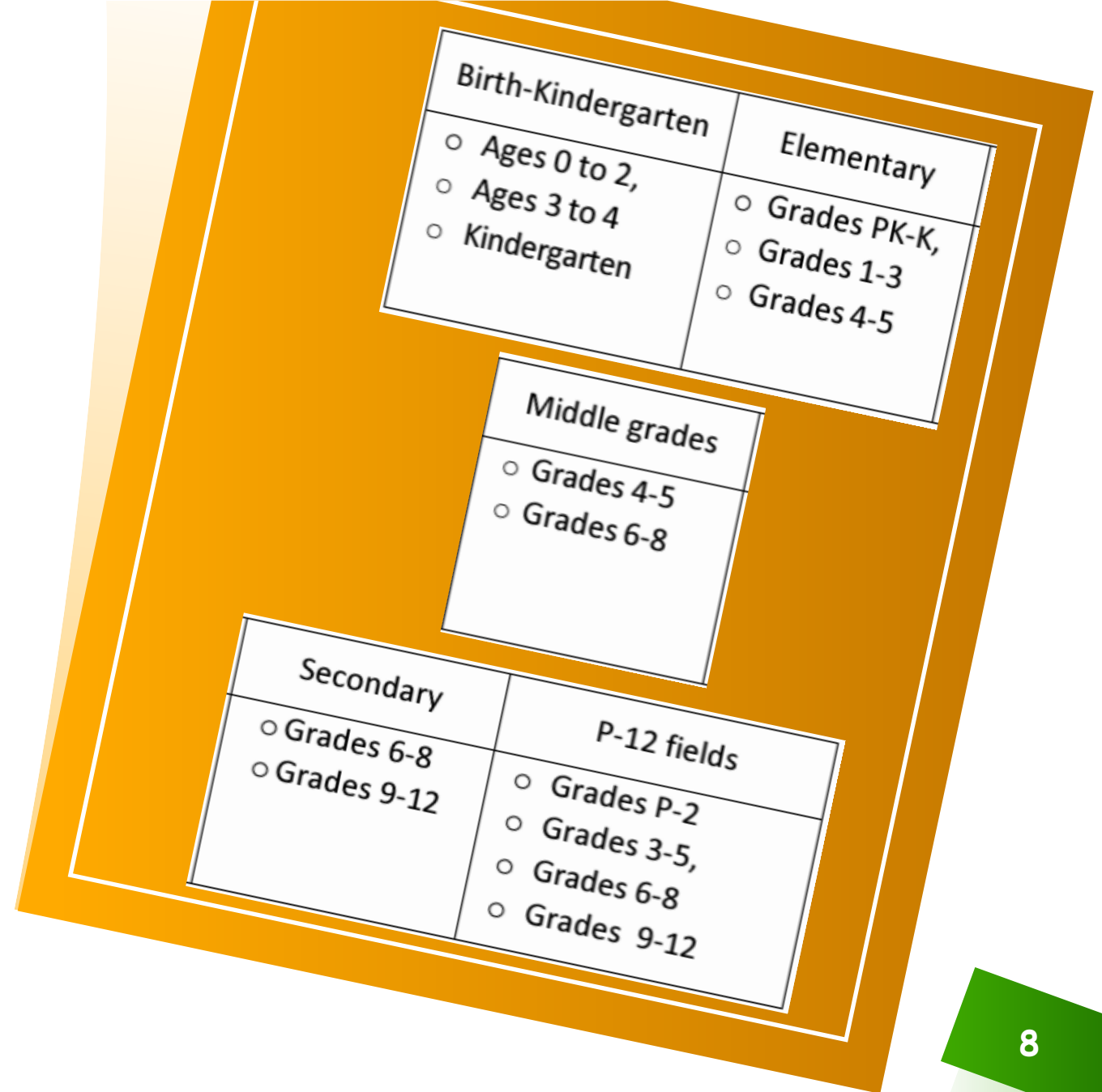


# Grade Bands

## Non-negotiable

GaPSC Rule 505-3-.01

- Candidates must complete supervised field experiences consistent with the grade levels of certification sought
- Can be done in combination with clinical practice (i.e. Elem – Field experience in PK-K and 1-3, Clinical Practice in 5



# Placement Site

## Non-negotiable

### GaPSC Rule 505-2-.31

- REGIONALLY ACCREDITED P-12 SCHOOL
- GEORGIA STATE CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION APPROVED CHARTER SCHOOL
- GAPSC ACCEPTED ACCREDITOR ACCREDITED PRIVATE SCHOOL
- DEPT OF DEFENSE/INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MEETING GAPSC ACCREDITATION

To investigate accredited schools, use the resources listed here:

- [Cognia – Accreditation Registry Search](#)
- [Charter School Commission Approved State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia](#)
- [Approved Local Charter School and State Charter School Contracts \(GaDOE\)](#)

# Placement Classroom

Non-negotiable

GaPSC Rule 505-3-.01

- IN FIELD OF CERTIFICATION SOUGHT AND IN FIELD FOR WHICH EPP HAS BEEN GAPSC APPROVED
- ONE FULL SEMESTER = 600 HOURS
  - 15 WEEKS, 5X/WEEK, 8HRS/DAY
  - 500 HOURS LOGGED IN TPMS (ACCOUNTS FOR SCHOOL BREAKS, PD DAYS, ETC.)



# Mentor Teacher

## Non-negotiable

### GaPSC Rule 505-3-.01

- EXPERIENCE:  
THREE YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN FIELD WHICH CANDIDATE IS SEEKING CERTIFICATION (TEACHING, LEADING, OR SERVICE)
- CERTIFICATION:  
IN GA SCHOOL REQUIRING CERTIFICATION: RENEWABLE PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE MUST BE HELD IN CONTENT AREA WHICH CANDIDATE IS SEEKING CERTIFICATION  
OR  
IN GA SCHOOL WITH AUTHORITY TO WAIVE CERTIFICATION: CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE MUST BE HELD



# Bridges

**Barrier:** Mentor teacher not always available to align with candidate area of certification

**Bridge:** Rule 505-3-.01 Guidance and Implementation, as well as Appendix C will provide appropriate mentor requirements and matching fields

## Appendix C Related Fields of Certification for the Purposes of Matching B/P-12 Supervisors to Candidates in Residency or Internship

GaPSC Preparation Fields	*Acceptable Related Fields of Certification for Clinical Supervisors
Birth Through Kindergarten	Elementary Special Education Preschool
Elementary Education	Special Education General Curriculum Elementary Education (P-5)

# Bridges

**Barrier:** EPPs were limited to one setting.

**Bridge:** Rule 505-3-.01 Guidance now states that using videos is effective and EPPs must utilize a balanced approach. The EPP has the flexibility to decide appropriate field experience settings for its candidates based on required grade bands, school placement, and availability of appropriate, quality learning environments.

[505\\_3\\_.01\\_Guidance\\_and\\_Implementation\\_Timeline\\_V7.1\\_effective\\_August\\_2024.pdf](#)



Videos/virtual do not completely replace in-person field experiences.

# Bridges

**Barrier:** Not always convenient to have face to face clinical practice.

**Bridge:** A virtual clinical experience may be the only option and the EPP will determine if the clinical practice experience meets program completion requirements.





We welcome  
your input to  
breakdown  
barriers and  
build bridges  
for Clinical  
Practice!

## GaPSC Annual Conference 2024: Barriers to Bridges Clinical Practice Session





Please give us your feedback!

To complete a brief survey, scan the QR code or click [here](#).





*Thank You!*