

# HAWK TRACKS...

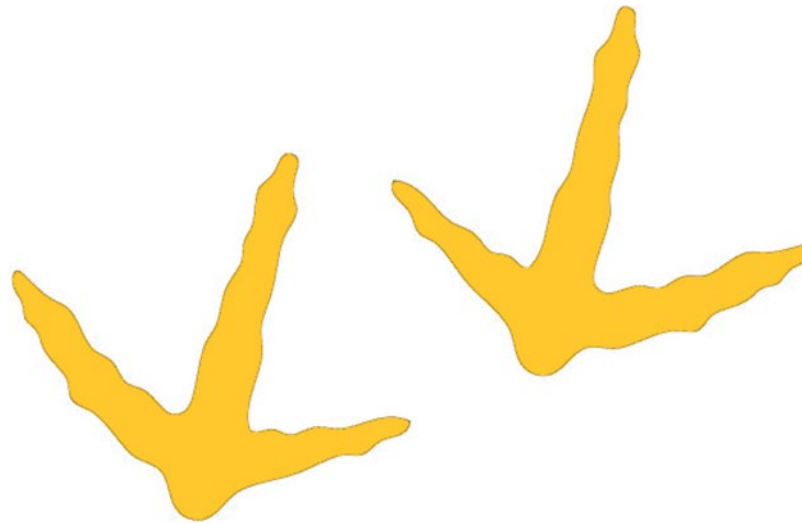
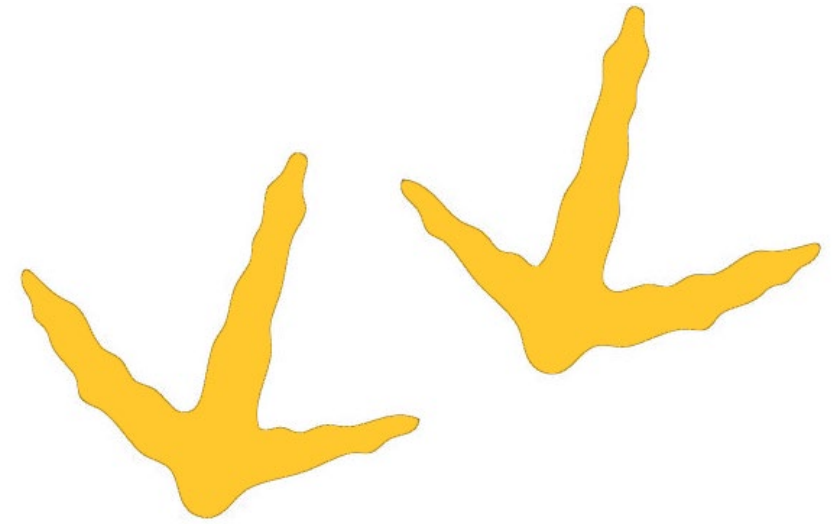


Guiding Your Journey  
Through  
Student Teaching and  
Advanced Teaching  
Practicum

# READY TO ROCK STUDENT TEACHING?

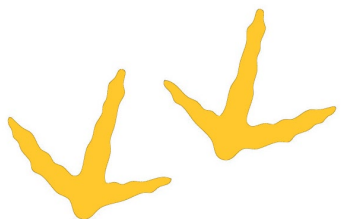
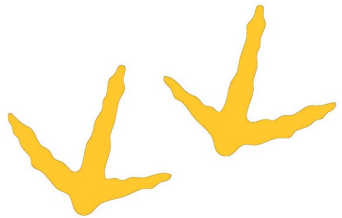


- Overall minimum GPA 2.75
- Secondary students - minimum GPA in content area 2.5
- Pre-requisites and general education courses complete
- Education courses complete with a minimum grade of "C-"
- Incomplete grade(s) must be resolved prior to beginning student teaching
- Forms must be completed and submitted by deadline outlined further in the presentation



# HAWK TALK:

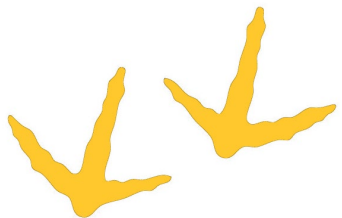
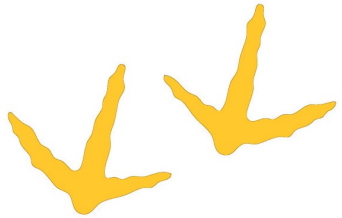
# STUDENT TEACHING



- Student teaching is a culmination of field experiences after completing coursework with multiple opportunities to observe and engage with students in surrounding school districts
- Transformative experience bridging theory with practice
  - Apply knowledge & skills in an actual classroom
  - Achieve hands-on experience
  - Develop your professional identity as a teacher for your career
  - Build relationships with mentors, colleagues, and students
- Transition to assuming full responsibility in the classroom
- Student teaching is a full-time experience
- The course(s) associated with this experience outlines expectations and assignments

[Click here](#) to review the KU student teaching handbook

# HAWK TALK: ADVANCED TEACHING PRACTICUM



- 40 total hours of advanced teaching practicum for secondary ELA and SS students after completing coursework
- Transition to assuming responsibility in the classroom with a gradual transition out of responsibilities
- 1-2 periods a day for approximately 8 weeks
- Students are assigned the same class(es) of students
- Begins approximately the third week of the fall semester
- The course(s) associated with this experience outlines expectations and assignments



# JOURNEY OF YOUR FINAL YEAR



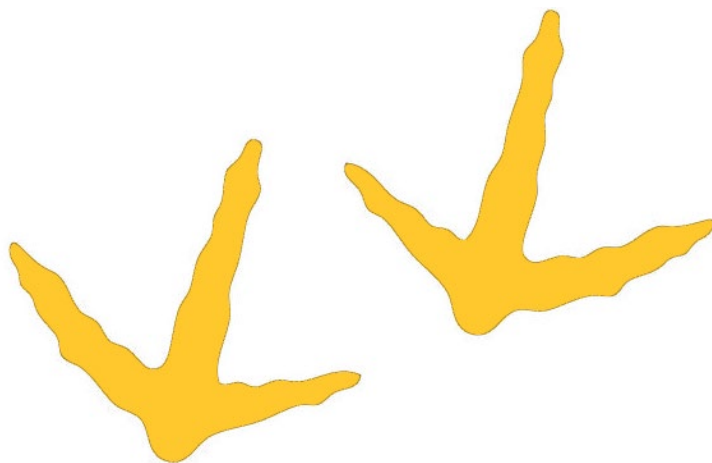
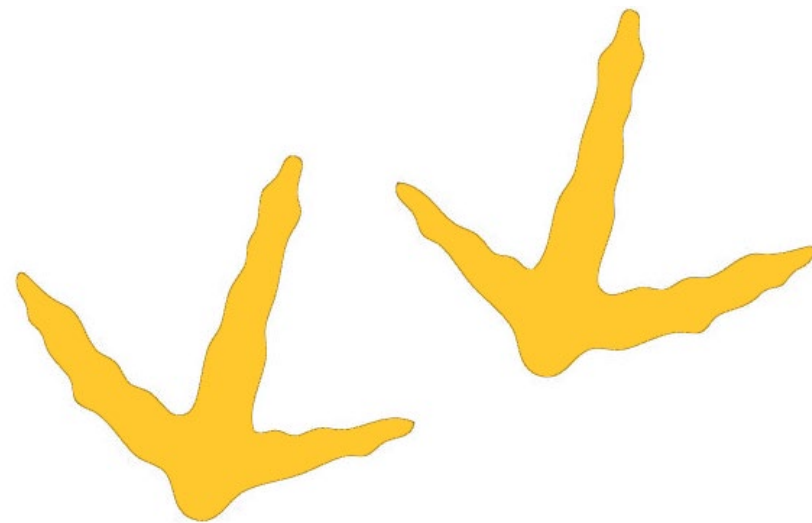
- Elementary Education program - One placement at primary level (K - 3<sup>rd</sup>) & one placement at intermediate level (3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>); these placements cover experience in the range of grade levels you will be certified to teach
- Elementary Education Unified program - fall placement at primary (K-3<sup>rd</sup>) or intermediate (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) & spring placement in elementary special education
- Unified Early Childhood program - fall placement at primary level (K-3<sup>rd</sup>) & spring placement in early childhood with special education (Pre-K)
- Secondary program - advanced teaching practicum during the fall & student teaching during the spring; 1 placement at the middle level & 1 placement at high school level
- STEM Teach KU program - fall or spring semester full time student teaching experience in middle or high school
- Visual Art, Music, and PE program - fall or spring semester placement is divided with 1 placement at elementary level & one placement at middle or high school level





# PLACEMENT GOALS

- KU's priority is for students to experience diverse settings (demographics, schools, and districts) and therefore, placement will be in different locations.
- A variety of experiences with quality Clinical Supervisors prepares you for your career and future success



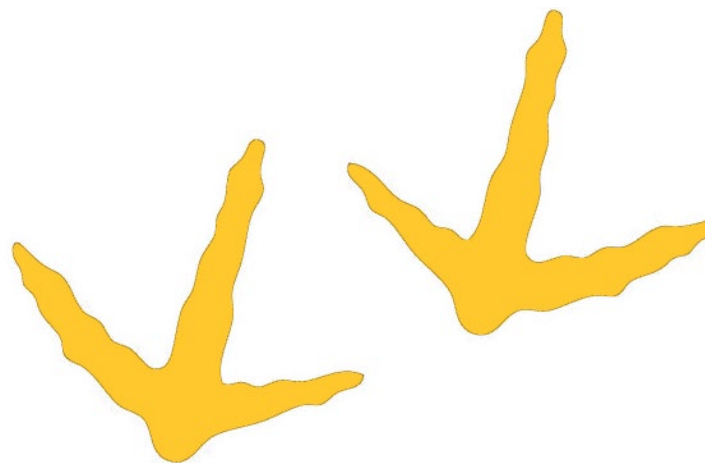
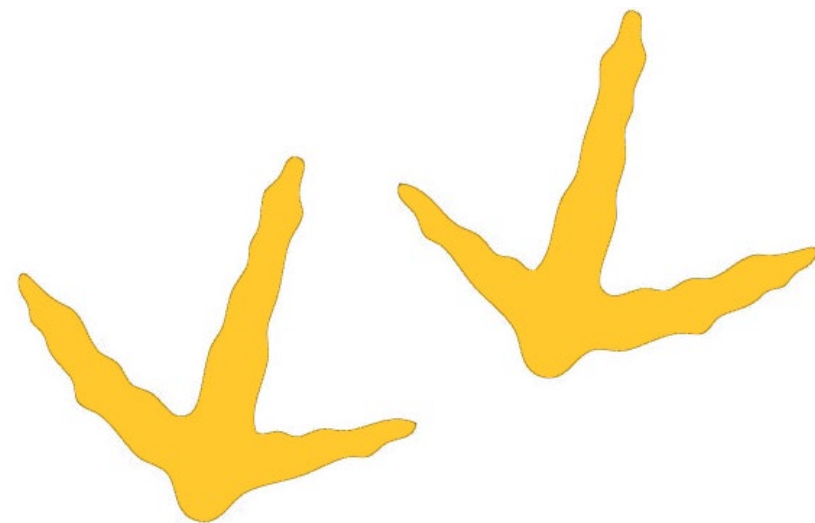


# PLACEMENT PROCESS

As noted on student teaching/advanced teaching practicum preference form you will indicate:

- Indicate preference in grade level range - primary (K-3<sup>rd</sup>) or intermediate (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>); middle (6-8<sup>th</sup>) or high school (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)
- List top three choice from column A and column B
- Click here to reference information about partner districts: All districts are within 50 miles of Lawrence
- All other considerations will be placed in the notes section of the form (i.e., personal or medical concern)

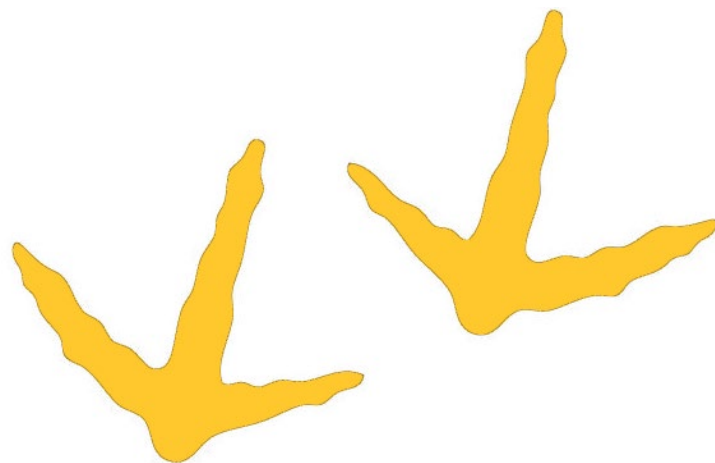
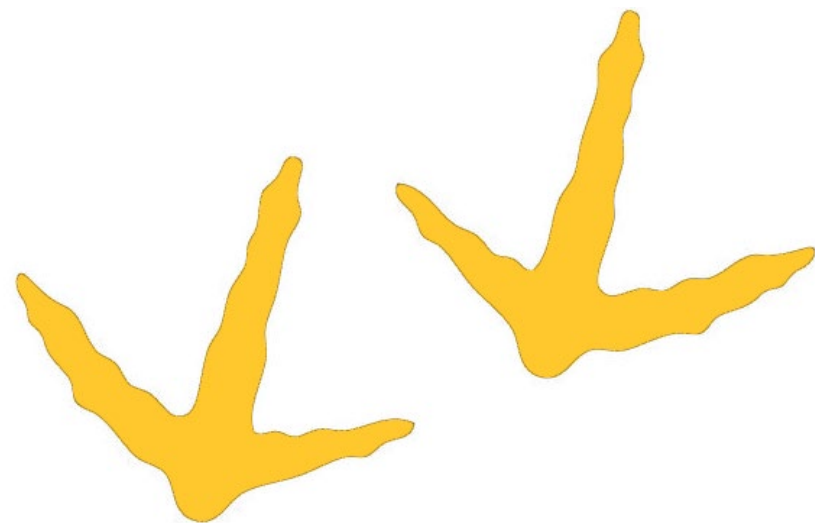
Each school district determines if they have the capacity to support student teachers & assigns Clinical Supervisors





# PLACEMENT REMINDERS

- Reliable transportation is your responsibility and a requirement for student teaching & advanced teaching practicum
- Surrounding school districts are supporting advanced teaching practicum and student teaching for students from KU along with several other universities and therefore, you may not receive your preferred choices
- If you have family employed or attending a school, you will not be placed in that school but can be placed in the same district.
- Due to a conflict of interest, you will not be placed in school(s) you attended
- All arrangements for student teaching and advanced teaching practicum are made through KU Field Experience office.
- Conversations are not permitted with school or district personnel regarding your placement

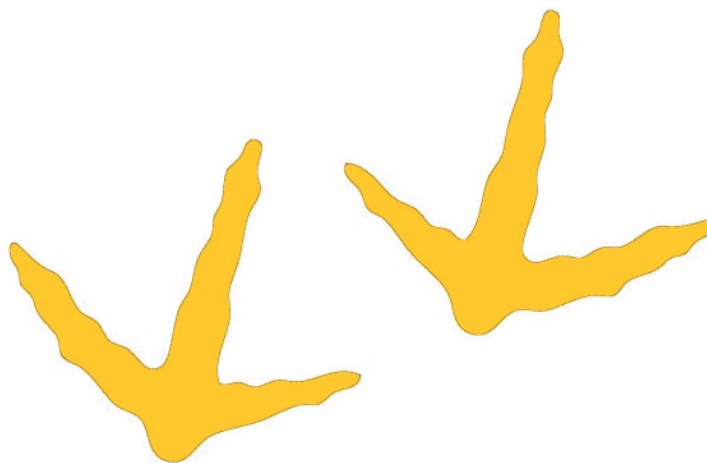
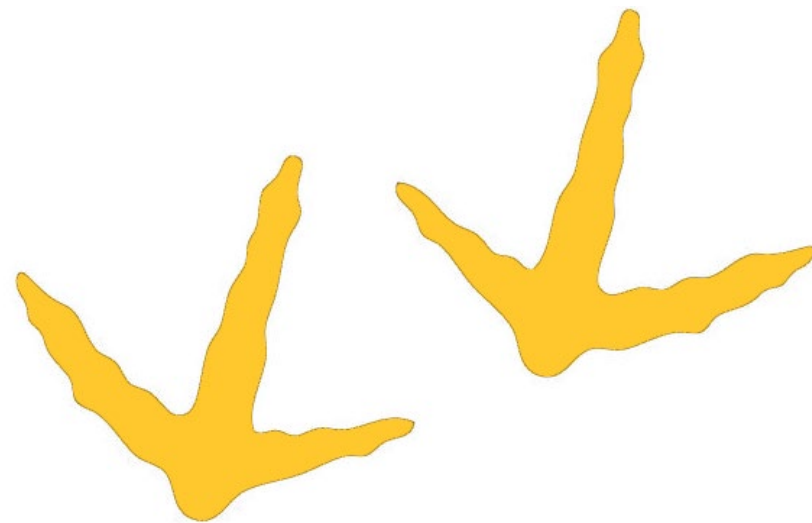






# PLACEMENT TIMELINE

- Fall requests are sent to districts the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March
- Spring requests are sent to districts the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September
- Districts respond as they work through their process and placement information is sent once the placement is confirmed.
- An email will be sent once your placement is confirmed
- Once you receive confirmation, reach out to your clinical supervisor to introduce yourself and thank them for their valuable assistance.





# LET THE ADVENTURE BEGIN...



- Elementary, EEU, UEC, Secondary, STEM Teach KU, Music, and PE students begin on teacher report date (not the 1<sup>st</sup> day with students); it is mandatory to experience the beginning of the school year (classroom setup, teacher workdays, professional development sessions, grade level meetings, etc.)
- Art begins before KU classes start
- Follow your placement district calendar regarding breaks; additional details will be provided in your course



# HAWK TALK: COACHING & SUPPORT



## Clinical Supervisor

Educates children/adolescents in your school district; Supports and provides feedback to KU students  
Also known as cooperating teacher or mentor

## University Supervisor

KU School of Education and Human Sciences representative who guides the process (visits and evaluates the student teacher throughout their experience) and acts as a liaison between the Clinical Supervisor and the University.

# HAWK TALK: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS (PDS) PROGRAM



PDS cohort model is designed to build lasting collaborative relationships with other student teachers as a support structure for the success of their futures

PDS course allows students the opportunity to discuss their experiences & receive ongoing professional development

Co-teaching with Clinical Supervisor:  
Working together with groups of students -sharing planning, delivery, and assessment of instruction

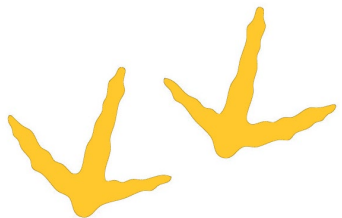
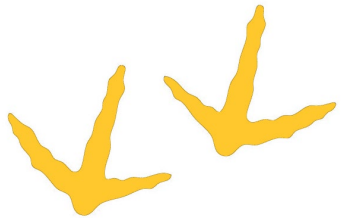
- Active partnership between the School of Education and Human Sciences & 18 public schools in 5 districts surrounding the main KU campus in Lawrence

- Lawrence Public Schools
- Shawnee Mission Public Schools
- Kansas City Kansas Public Schools
- Topeka Public Schools
- De Soto School District
- Bonner Springs School District
- Coming Soon - Rural District

Program is designed to offer teacher candidates numerous enriching opportunities in schools that are dedicated to overcoming academic, language, & socio-economic challenges

- [Click here](#) to review the school partners in each district; not all schools in each district are PDS partner schools
- May complete one or two semesters at a PDS site but not necessarily placed in the same school
- All students have an opportunity to be a part of the PDS program; Indicate on your [student teaching/advanced teaching practicum request form](#) & [preference form](#) your decision to join the PDS program

# HAWK TALK: PDS AND TRADITIONAL PLACEMENTS



## PDS

- Cohort model - More than 1 student in the building
- Partnership focuses on teacher prep, professional development, research, and student learning. Schools are committed to KU PDS program
- Year long placement at the same school with same University Supervisor
- Coursework is reflective of PDS goals
- Students involved in classroom & school-wide teaching, professional development, inquiry, PLC, and committees
- Fall observations of spring placement classroom
- Classroom observations develop a larger repertoire of instructional, differentiation, assessment, & management strategies
- Flexible Friday workshops

## Both

- Clinical Supervisors meet KU requirements
- Observe the beginning and ending of the school year
- Kick-off session in April/May
- Apply knowledge & skills in an actual classroom
- Build relationships with mentors, colleagues, and students
- Develop your professional identity as a teacher for your career

## Traditional

- Students experience diverse settings (demographics, schools, and districts); Placement in different schools
- Broad range of districts and choices which creates a different perspective on student teaching at separate sites
- University Supervisor might change

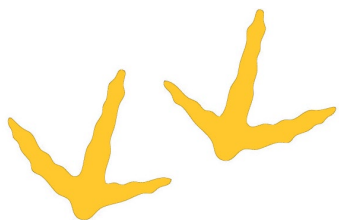
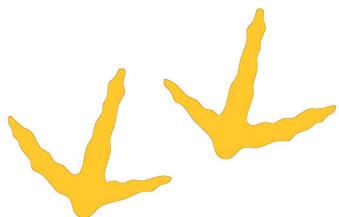
# HAWK TALK: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOLS (PDS) PROGRAM



Explore the PDS Program through these inspiring testimonials from KU students

- [Click here](#) to learn more about Flexible Fridays with Heidi, elementary education student
- [Click here](#) to learn more about PDS with Kareem, secondary English education student

# EMBARKING ON YOUR JOURNEY



**DUE: Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

- [Student Teaching & Advanced Teaching Practicum Request Form](#)
- [Student Teaching & Advanced Teaching Practicum Preference Form](#)

**DUE: Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

- [Health Assessment AND Tuberculosis Test](#)
- [Validity Background Check](#)
- [Professional Liability Coverage](#)  
Apply AFTER April 1<sup>st</sup>
- [Bloodborne Pathogen Training](#)

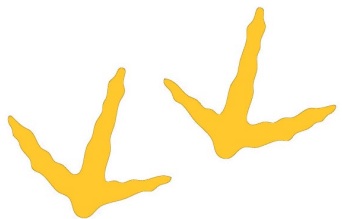
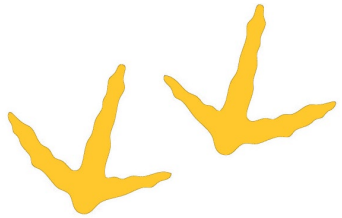


Save a copy of forms

If student teaching during Spring 2026 (STEM Teach KU, PE Plus, Visual Art or Music) These forms due: August 29<sup>th</sup>

**SUBMIT DOCUMENTS:**  
[jillmckay@ku.edu](mailto:jillmckay@ku.edu)

# STUDENT TEACHING & ADVANCED TEACHING PRACTICUM REQUEST FORM



Part 1: Directory information (Name, phone number, address)

Part 2: KUID Number (7 digits)

Part 3: Email

Part 4:

Content area (drop-down box)

Advisor (drop-down box)

Program (drop-down box)

Part 5:

Schools you attended (High, Middle, Elementary) including the district  
Relatives attending or employed at school within 50 miles of Lawrence

Notes: Add information you would like for the field experience  
coordinator to consider (for example: health condition or additional  
preferences)

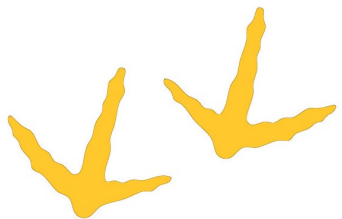
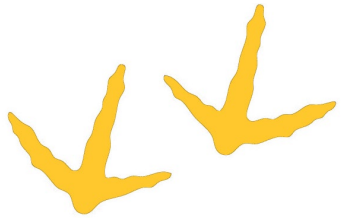
Part 6:

Write a statement of introduction (2-3 paragraphs) describing  
yourself, your teaching philosophy and why you want to be a teacher.  
Check spelling and grammar as the district and principals will receive

PDS students will include a statement detailing their motivation and reasons  
for joining the PDS program

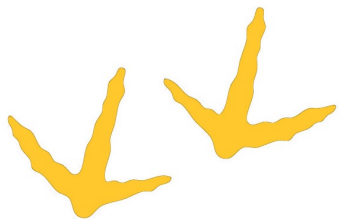
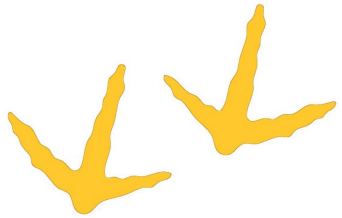


# STUDENT TEACHING/ ADVANCED TEACHING PRACTICUM PREFERENCE FORM



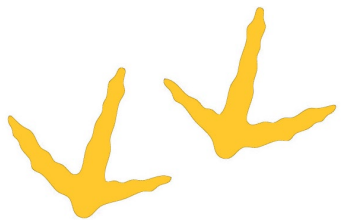
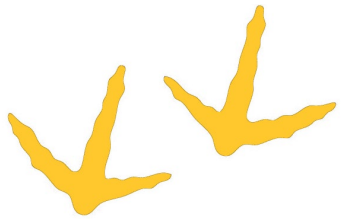
- [Click here](#) to reference the student teaching partner districts webpage to generate your top three districts in Column A and in Column B
- [Click here](#) to reference the PDS partner district webpage to select PDS district and school preference
- As a reminder - The University of Kansas is committed to your future success as an educator. Our priority is to ensure that students gain experience in diverse settings, including various demographics, schools, and districts. While the School of Education and Human Sciences considers your preferences, please be cognizant that each district determines its capacity to support student teachers and assigns clinical supervisors. Given that school districts collaborate with multiple colleges and universities, students may not always receive their preferred placement(s). Preferences are taken into account, but we ask that you remain open-minded and flexible once your placement is confirmed.

# HAWK TALK: PROFESSIONAL IMAGE



- Online Presence - Social Media Accounts
  - A positive and professional online presence helps manage your reputation, ensuring you are viewed as credible and trustworthy by students, parents, and colleagues
- Physical Appearance - Attire
  - Promotes a professional image which fosters respect and authority among students

# HEALTH ASSESSMENT & TUBERCULOSIS TEST



## ① Health Assessment

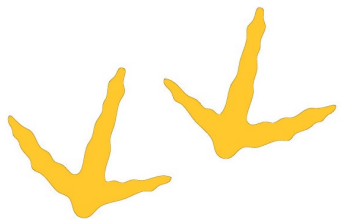
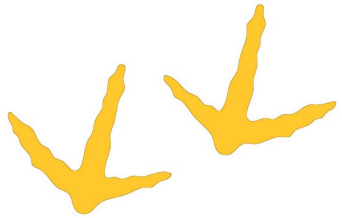
-Healthcare provider assesses overall health stating they found no evidence of any physical condition with the health, safety, or welfare of the pupil that would prevent the individual from working in a safe and healthful manner.

## ② Tuberculosis (TB) Test

-Once administered you will return to the facility in 48 hours for the results to be determined

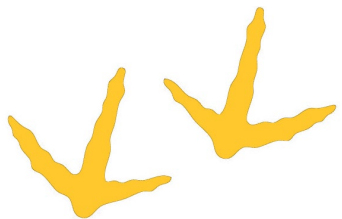
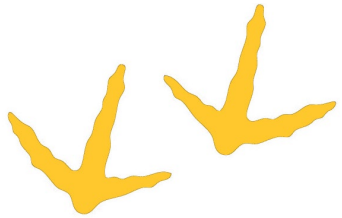
- Ensure both parts of the form are signed and dated by healthcare provider
- If you have a health assessment and/or TB test, check the date to ensure it is not older than one year from the day you will begin the experience
- You may utilize Watkins Health Center, physician's office, & some pharmacies

# VALIDITY BACKGROUND CHECK



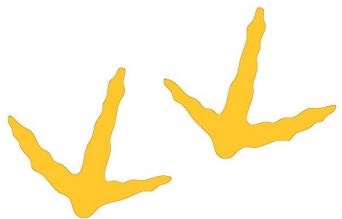
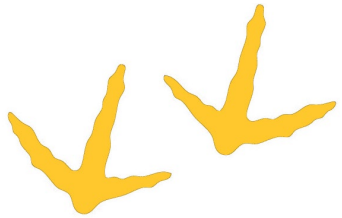
- Background checks are a vital step in the process to ensure that those working with children have clean records and can be trusted to provide a safe, effective learning environment.
- Validity Screening Solutions provides the detailed information required by our partner districts
- [Click here](#) to review instructions; \$36 fee
- Results will be emailed to The School of Education & Human Sciences within 2-4 weeks via a secure web interface
- You will be notified of results when available - access through the Validity website
- A copy of your background check will be sent to the district
- Kansas State Department of Education and districts are concerned about crimes related to drugs, theft, or children
- If you have concerns about a prior diversion or conviction, please reach out ASAP

# PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY COVERAGE



- Liability coverage protects educators from paying for legal fees or judgments against them if a parent or student takes legal action against you; Even if you hold yourself to high standards, mistakes happen, and parents can initiate lawsuits that would cause you to incur legal costs
- Student teachers are required by the University of Kansas to carry \$1,000,000 in liability coverage
- Coverage can be purchased from insurance providers or National Educators Association
- Proof of coverage of million dollars along with coverage dates must be included in document submitted
- Most students join NEA (KNEA) student program since the coverage is one of the many benefits of student membership
- \$18 for the academic year (\$15 for membership and \$3 for KU Chapter dues)
- Sign up online AFTER April 1st (signing up prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>, enrolls you for the current academic year & will need to be renewed again before fall experience)
- **\$1 million in liability coverage is required for placement**

# BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN TRAINING



- Bloodborne pathogen training certifies that employees have been educated on how to protect themselves against exposure
- Training is provided via Canvas through the KU Department of Environment, Health, and Safety at no cost
- Complete steps 1-7 under KU - EHS Blackboard Course Self Enrollment Instructions - **Course # EHS000-001**
- Complete the training and the quiz at the end
- Save your completion certificate and email to [jillmckay@ku.edu](mailto:jillmckay@ku.edu)

# ROCK CHALK!



You are going to ROCK at  
advanced teaching practicum  
and student teaching!

Make us proud Jayhawks!



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