



Memorandum

Date: November 24, 2009

To: Program Providers of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Additional Qualifications Programs at York University, University of Ottawa and Nipissing University

From: Michael Salvatori, OCT
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Teaching Experience in Lieu of Practicum

Regulation 184/97, Teachers' Qualifications Regulation, Subsection 42.4 describes the program that leads to the qualification Teaching Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

42.4 (d) indicates that the program "include a practicum acceptable to the College in teaching students who are deaf or hard of hearing."

The proposed additional qualification program guideline – [Teaching Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing](#) – describes the practicum that is acceptable to the College. It states:

- placements are determined by the university in consultation with the candidates
- the practicum must be successfully completed prior to being recommended for the qualification
- practicum placements must occur in person, on site, and include direct engagement with students and professionals in a variety of placements. The use of interpreters may be appropriate in specific circumstances
- placements must include a variety of grade levels and settings, where available
- universities must provide opportunities for candidates to observe in both streams American Sign Language/Langue des signes québécoise (ASL/LSQ) Communication and Aural/Oral Communication. The use of interpreters may be required in specific observation circumstances
- candidates will be placed with an Ontario Certified Teacher (OCT) of the deaf or hard of hearing during a supervised, integrated practicum
- candidates are required to teach in at least one practicum placement in their area of specialization

- candidates must complete a practicum, if regionally possible, in two different educational settings – a school board, provincial school, private school, First Nations school
- host teachers will provide ongoing feedback to both the candidates and the university
- there must be documented evidence of a successful practicum placement including a description of the candidate's responsibilities
- the university will document and record the candidate's practicum achievements
- practicum lesson planning, development, and implementation will be evaluated based on the application of program theory and strategies.

The majority of candidates enrolled in the program will complete the practicum as described. You will note that part-time candidates currently teaching deaf or hard of hearing students may use their current teaching assignment as their practicum placements under the supervision of the university and in consultation with an Ontario Certified Teacher of the deaf or hard of hearing.

However, you may also have candidates who come to the program with teaching experience and who have the Deaf, Part 1 qualification.

At a teleconference on June 8, 2009 with you, the issue of accepting teaching experience in lieu of the practicum was discussed. Based on the advice you provided, I will accept teaching time in lieu of practicum in the Teaching Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing program provided the following criteria are met. The teaching experience must be:

- successful, as certified by an appropriate supervisory officer or supervisory official
- acquired teaching a student(s) who is deaf or hard of hearing in a segregated or integrated setting
- acquired teaching students who are ASL/LSQ users and/or who use aural/oral communication
- supervised by an Ontario Certified Teacher who holds qualifications as a teacher of deaf or hard of hearing students
- acquired as a member of the regular teaching staff – either full-time or part-time – or as a long-term occasional teacher but not as a day-to-day occasional teacher
- completed as a classroom or an itinerant teacher
- completed in a school board, provincial school, private school, as defined in the *Education Act*, or a school under the authority of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) or a First Nations education authority that uses the Ontario curriculum
- attested to by a supervisory official.

We will not require candidates to provide the information to the College but will rely on you to collect the evidence of successful teaching of students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

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If you have any questions or for further information, please contact Michelle Longlade, OCT, Director of Standards of Practice and Accreditation at 416-961-8800, or toll-free in Ontario at 1-888-534-2222, extension 870.

Sincerely,



Michael Salvatori, OCT
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer

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