25-HOUR YOUTH EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR ADMISSION TO THE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM

When applying for admission to the Department of Education’s Professional Program, all applicants must complete 25 hours of successful experiences working with youth in the age range of their certification.

Can the 25 hours be waived?
- Successful completion of the Teacher Cadet Program in high school will be accepted to waive this requirement.

How do you verify your experience with youth?
- Applicants complete the Professional Program Application which includes instructions.
- Applicants complete and attach their Service Learning Log to their application (minimum 25 hours).
- Applicants attach the Practitioner Recommendation form to their application.

To fulfill the requirement, the youth experience:
- may not be connected to any university course work (takes effect in Fall 2015).
- must include active involvement / interaction with youth.
- should be completed in the time between entrance into the freshman class and application for admission. Some high school experiences such as Teacher Cadet may count.
- can be a paid experience.

In addition to the above, the following criteria must be met for specific programs:
- Early Childhood Teacher Education – The experience must be with children between birth through age 8 (grades PK-3).
- Elementary Teacher Education - The experience must be with youth generally between the ages of 7 and 12 (grades 2-6).
- Secondary Teacher Education – The experience must be with youth generally between the ages of 14 and 18 (grades 9-12).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARE APPROPRIATE</th>
<th>ARE NOT APPROPRIATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activities completed at the University of South Carolina Beaufort (USCB)</td>
<td>Observations, program development, or monitoring behavior; babysitting, serving as a nanny, and taking care of your own, friends’, or relative’s children.</td>
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<td>Supervised day care work.</td>
<td>Experience supervised by a relative</td>
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<td>Camp counselor/worker YMCA, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, or Volunteer work (e.g. Special Olympics, Heritage).</td>
<td>Observations in schools that do not involve actually working with students or is/was associated with coursework.</td>
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<td>Supervised tutoring.</td>
<td>Tutoring associated with USCB coursework.</td>
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<td>Work as a substitute teacher in K-12 schools Coaching sports teams, and directing band, chorus, choir, dance troupe, or theatre productions in K-12 school setting.</td>
<td>Experience with post-secondary youth, such as Residential Hall Assistant, tutor at the Writing Center, or lab assistant.</td>
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Applicants are to submit the Practitioner Recommendation form with the Professional Program Application to document their 25-hour youth experience.

Experience must include active involvement with youth. If an applicant’s youth experience is questionable, the Program Review Committee will review it and make a recommendation to the department chair.