

WIU Teacher Education Program

Competencies of an Effective Cooperating Teacher

- Committed to the role of mentoring
- Accepting of the student teacher
- Skilled at providing instructional support
- Effective in different interpersonal contexts
- A model of a continuous learner
- Able to communicate hope and optimism
- Skilled in communication including conflict resolution
- Skilled in peer instructional coaching
- Skilled in observing, analyzing and providing feedback to the student teacher
- Able to reflect and be proactive about their own teaching and the teaching of the student teacher
- Skilled in analyzing the learning of diverse students and able to help the student teacher learn from these processes
- Recommendation of building principal to be a positive cooperating teacher
- A model of effective class management skills
- Completion of three successful years of classroom teaching

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Criteria for Cooperating Teacher Selection

Clinical Experience

- The cooperating teacher must have at least 3 years of successful teaching experience in the public school system.
- The cooperating teacher must be employed by a public or private school district approved by ISBE.
- The cooperating teacher must be recommended by the building principal.
- Past positive experience with pre-student teaching/student teaching students is preferred of the cooperating teacher.
- A master's degree is preferred, but not required of the cooperating teacher.
- Received a proficient or above performance rating in his or her most recent evaluation.