

**University of Nebraska at Omaha
College of Education
Professional Dispositions Statement**

Teaching is a profession that requires its potential candidates to be individuals of integrity. Prospective teachers must be able to demonstrate that they are individuals of strong moral character who can make mature decisions for themselves and for the students whom they will teach. Teachers are responsible for the education, safety, and well-being of anyone in their charge. The University of Nebraska at Omaha College of Education prepares future teachers who show a high degree of moral character and the ability to act responsibly inside and outside the classroom. These individuals must be able to serve as representatives of the College and the University and must demonstrate the personal and professional dispositions of the teaching profession.

Inappropriate behaviors on the part of candidates, which in the College's reasonable judgment, violate the University's Student Code of Conduct, establish a lack of integrity or moral/ethical character, or demonstrate conduct or patterns of behavior inconsistent with the personal and professional dispositions expected in the teaching profession, shall be sufficient grounds for 1) denial of admission to or enrollment in teacher preparation programs, 2) dismissal or removal from programs, courses, observations, field experiences, practica, student teaching, and similar field-based experiences, and 3) withholding institutional recommendation for certification. Such behaviors could be evidenced within the University or PK-12 school environment, outside the University or PK-12 school environment, and/or in an electronic or digital context. Displays or patterns of behaviors may be established by any credible means including, but not limited to, the facts surrounding a record of arrests or convictions or information obtained by the University directly from a school or district official. Teacher candidates should note that the College of Education must provide a recommendation for certification in order for a student to obtain his/her teaching certificate. Accordingly, inappropriate behaviors by candidates could jeopardize not only their educational goals at UNO but also their professional goals including the ability to become a certified teacher.

Candidates who exhibit inappropriate behaviors may be referred for a Conference of Concern to formally identify the unsuitable behaviors, recommend corrective action(s), and determine the candidate's suitability for continuing in teacher preparation. Candidates who have convictions outlined in the Nebraska Department of Education's Rule 20, Section 005.07A, will be allowed to continue in the teacher preparation program or referred for certification only through an appeal to the Commissioner or State Board of Education.

I swear/affirm that I have read and understand the Professional Dispositions Statement of the College of Education.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____