

This document is intended to support Dual Majors in Elementary and Special Education (ELSP) in understanding the practicum & residency requirements of the program and selecting the option that best aligns with their unique needs and teaching aspirations.

### **ELSP Student Placement Requirements:**

Upon graduating from the program, ELSP students are eligible for licensure in special education k-12. Consequently, to ensure these students are prepared to work in both the elementary and secondary environments, they are required to secure practicum/residency hours in both settings.

ELSP students may choose one of two options to meet this program requirement. Both options have been outlined and detailed below:

#### **Special Education Placements Option 1:**

- Practicum 3 Placement -
  - Secondary Special Education Setting (i.e., middle or high school)
- Residency Placement (Student Teaching) -
  - Elementary Special Education Setting (8-weeks)
  - General Education Elementary Education Setting (8-weeks)

The easiest and most efficient way to secure hours in both the elementary and secondary setting is for ELSP students to complete Practicum 3 in a secondary special education placement and their residency experience in the elementary setting. This placement option typically allows students to remain in the same building throughout the entire 16-weeks of residency (i.e., 8-weeks special education/8-weeks general education).

#### **Special Education Placements Option 2:**

- Practicum 3 Placement -
  - Elementary Special Education Setting
- Residency Placement (Student Teaching) -
  - Secondary Special Education Setting (i.e., middle or high school) (8-weeks)
  - General Education Elementary Education Setting (8-weeks)

While option 2 is available to all ELSP students, it is specifically recommended for those ELSP students seeking to teach special education at the secondary level. For this option, ELSP students complete their Practicum 3 hours in the elementary setting. Subsequently, these students

complete their special education residency hours in the secondary setting. In this scenario, students will be placed in two separate buildings for student teaching (i.e., elementary building to complete general education elementary requirements and secondary building to complete special education requirements).

Ultimately, no matter which path students select (option 1 or option 2), they must secure hours in both the elementary and secondary setting throughout their time in the program.

If you have specific questions regarding the requirements above, please reach out to your advisor or the Special Education Program Coordinator, Dr. Tiffany Hunt at [thunt@uwyo.edu](mailto:thunt@uwyo.edu).

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