

TEACHER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES

2026 TCPCG Program Expectations and Candidate Continuation Policy

Throughout the teacher candidates' progress in the Teacher Education program, faculty, clinic teachers, and university supervisors will assess the teacher candidates' professional knowledge, skills, and dispositions in both course assignments and clinical settings, and make recommendations regarding teacher candidate continuation in the program.

Continuation in TCPCG is based on continued acceptable performance.

Acceptable performance in TCPCG is defined as when a teacher candidate:

- Demonstrates consistent, active, and appropriate engagement/participation during scheduled classes/meetings.
- Exhibits professional written and oral communication (including via email and during meetings) with faculty, staff, school representatives, and peers.
- Earns grades of B- or better in all courses and seminars.
 - Any candidate who receives a grade lower than a B- must participate in a Professional Growth Plan meeting with their faculty advisor and the TCPCG director.
 - Two or more grades below a B- may result in dismissal from the program.
- Maintains a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, in accordance with the policies of the UConn Graduate School.
- Completes any and all work for Incomplete grades **prior to start** of the subsequent semester.
 - Candidates will be required to complete the **Incomplete Agreement form** with their course instructor and/or faculty advisor.
 - Candidates will not be registered by program staff for subsequent semester coursework until Incomplete grades are resolved, resulting in potential failure to continue in the program.
 - Any candidate who receives an Incomplete may be required to participate in a Professional Growth Plan meeting with their faculty advisor and the TCPCG director.
- Completes program requirements according to the plan of study for the concentration area.
 - This includes the following:
 - **Meeting program deadlines for required module completion.**
 - **Passing the Praxis II/ACTFL no later than before student teaching begins.**
 - **Any missing prerequisite coursework must be completed before student teaching begins, unless a plan has been developed and approved by the TCPCG director.**
- Follows the [UConn Student Code](#).
- Follows the [Neag School of Education Code of Conduct Policy](#), including all dispositional criteria
- Demonstrates the ability to work successfully with PK-12 students in field placement settings throughout the program.
 - Clinic teachers evaluate students by using the program's evaluation instruments aligned with program standards. Students must actively participate in scheduled clinic hours/days and receive consistently positive evaluations from classroom teachers to continue in the program.
- Follow the Teacher Code of Conduct within the assigned school-based placement.

Procedures:

The TCPCG Director will review teacher candidate performance on a semester basis. Likewise, faculty, instructors, clinic teachers, and university supervisors should notify the TCPCG Director of any students they identify with performance- or dispositional-related issues. Notification emails will be sent to teacher

education candidates who do not meet the criteria for acceptable performance, and a course of action will be determined.

When issues or concerns are raised regarding the teacher candidate's performance in the Teacher Education program, appropriate steps will be taken to address those concerns. Those steps are:

1. When a concern is raised, the appropriate faculty, advisor, or TCPCG Director is required to discuss the situation with the teacher candidate. Prior to this discussion, the appropriate individual(s) will review relevant documentation and other pertinent information to fully evaluate the concern. This meeting will be documented, and written recommendations will be provided to the teacher candidate. When a concern involves a teacher candidate's actions or dispositions in a field placement, the teacher candidate may be immediately withdrawn from the placement, as warranted.
2. Each semester, some teacher candidates will experience academic-, clinic-, or conduct-related performance issues that require additional intervention to support their professional growth and learning. If the nature of the concern warrants further intervention, the identified teacher education candidate will be required to attend a review meeting to be called by the TCPCG Director.

The TCPCG Director will chair and convene the Teacher Candidate Review Committee. Committee members, appointed by the chair, may include the student's faculty advisor, and, when appropriate, the Director of Teacher Education. Members of the Teacher Candidate Review Committee and the teacher candidate will be asked to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to share concerns, gather relevant additional information, and at the discretion of the Teacher Candidate Review Committee, develop a Teacher Candidate Professional Growth Plan. Ultimately, the Teacher Candidate Review Committee may dismiss the teacher candidate from TCPCG.

3. If the issue or concern regarding the teacher candidate's performance is not resolved and the candidate is dismissed from the program, the teacher candidate may be encouraged to contact the TCPCG Director about pursuing a non-certification master's program. Neag graduate students can appeal a dismissal by following the process for the [Graduate School](#), as described in the Graduate Catalog.

Teacher Candidate Professional Growth Plans:

Teacher candidates who do not meet the criteria for acceptable performance may be eligible for a Teacher Candidate Professional Growth Plan, based on their individual circumstances. The purpose of the Professional Growth Plan is to address specific areas of concern for teacher candidates who need additional support in TCPCG. Professional Growth Plans may incorporate university-based services and resources and will include clearly defined objectives and timelines for completion. Successful completion of all conditions outlined in a Professional Growth Plan is required for continuation in the Teacher Education program.

Teacher Candidate Professional Growth Plans, clinic evaluation forms, recommendations, and academic notice letters are treated as part of a teacher candidate's permanent teacher education file.

I have read and understand the TCPCG Teacher Education Program Expectations, Neag School of Education Code of Conduct Policy, and Candidate Progression Policy as stated here.

(Print Name)

Signature of Student

Date

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