



**Concordia University Irvine**  
**School of Education**  
**SCHOOL COUNSELOR CANDIDATE**  
**PRACTICUM/FIELDWORK AGREEMENT**  
**Mt. Diablo Unified School District**  
**January 29, 2020**

This School Counselor Candidate Fieldwork Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into as of the execution of the Agreement by both parties (on the "Effective Date") by and between Mt. Diablo Unified ("School District") located in Concord, California, and Concordia University ("University") a non-profit religious corporation located in Irvine, California.

**RECITALS**

- A. School District operates schools within its service area, and employs credentialed school counselors to serve one or more of those schools.
- B. University is an institution of higher learning authorized pursuant to California law to offer education programs, including without limitation, the School Counseling Field Experience program which requires school counseling fieldwork experience to fulfill the credentialing requirements set forth by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (the "Program").
- C. School District operates schools which are suitable for University's Program. University desires to establish the Program at School District for the students of the University enrolled in the Program. School District desires to support the Program to assist in training students of University.
- D. The purpose of this Agreement is to set forth the terms and conditions pursuant to which the parties will institute the Program at School District schools.

**AGREEMENT**

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and promises set forth herein and for such other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereto agree as follows:

**1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNIVERSITY**

- 1.1 Academic Responsibility. University shall develop the curriculum for the Program and shall be responsible for student accreditation and/or approval by any state board or agency.
- 1.2 Number of Students. University shall designate and notify School District of the students who are enrolled and in good standing in the Program to be assigned for field experience at School District in such numbers as are mutually agreed upon between School District and University. University and School District will also mutually agree to the dates and length of the Program.
- 1.3 Orientation. University shall provide orientation to all students and ensure that all students receive instruction and have necessary basic skills prior to the field experience at School District.

- 1.4 Discipline. University shall be responsible for counseling, controlling, disciplining and all activities of students at School District.
- 1.5 Documentation. University shall maintain all attendance and academic records of students participating in the Program. University shall implement and maintain an evaluation process of the students' progress throughout the Program.
- 1.6 Fingerprint and TB Clearance. The University will be responsible for students obtaining fingerprint and TB clearance and maintaining all documentation should proof be requested.

In accordance with California Education Code Section 44320, each credential candidate prior to assignment to District must obtain, at their sole expense, a "Certificate of Clearance," which includes a complete Live Scan Service. The University will ensure that student's receive a Certificate prior to beginning their assignment in the district or hold a valid document issued by the CTC accounting for fingerprint clearance.

In accordance with California Education Code Section 49406, each credential candidate prior to assignment to District must obtain at the candidate's sole expense an examination by a licensed physician or surgeon within the past 60 days to determine that he or she is free of active tuberculosis, prior to beginning the candidate's assignment in the District.

- 1.7 School District Policies and Procedures. University shall ensure that each student is aware of and understands all applicable School District policies and procedures and shall require each student to conform to all such School District policies, procedures, regulations, standards for health, safety, cooperation, ethical behavior, and any additional requirements and restrictions agreed upon by representatives of School District and University.
- 1.8 Supplies and Equipment. University shall provide and be responsible for the care and control of educational supplies, materials, and equipment used for instruction during the Program. University shall also be responsible, as between School District and University, for the cost of travel expenses and transportation, if any, incurred by students as a result of the Program.
- 1.9 Confidentiality. All verbal and written information exchanges, as well as proprietary information relating to business practices, procedures or methods of the District and the University shall remain strictly confidential and shall not be disclosed without consent of the other party.

The University shall notify Students that they are responsible for respecting and maintaining the confidentiality of all Student information and law enforcement records which the Student may receive or have access to pursuant to this Agreement. The University shall notify Students that they must agree to comply with the terms and conditions of all applicable confidentiality laws, including but not limited to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and the Regulations promulgated thereunder (20 U.S.C. section 1232g; 34 C.F.R. Part 99); California Education Code section 49060 et seq. (pupil records); California Welfare & Institutions Code sections 300 and 600 et seq.; 827 (juvenile justice system records) ; California Welfare & Institutions Code §5328.6 and §5328.7 (Mental Health Records); and 42 U.S.C. §§290dd-2; (iv) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") and the Regulations promulgated thereunder

(42 U.S.C. Sections 1320d-2 and 1320d-4; 45 C.F.R. Subtitle A, Subchapter C, Parts 160 – 164), as amended from time to time.

- 1.10 Insurance. University shall ensure that all students maintain professional liability insurance coverage (either independently or as an additional insured on University's policy) at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. Further, University agrees to maintain comprehensive general liability insurance at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. University shall ensure that such policies provide for notification to School District at least thirty (30) days in advance of any material modification or cancellation of such coverage. University also agrees to maintain statutory Workers' Compensation coverage on any individuals characterized as employees of University working at School District pursuant to this Agreement at all times during the course of this Agreement. University shall provide certificates evidencing all coverage referred to in this section within thirty (30) days of execution of this Agreement and thereafter, on an annual basis except, with respect to students, such evidence will be provided prior to the date when any new student commences participation in the Program.
- 1.11 Accreditation. University shall at all times during the course of this Agreement be accredited, licensed or qualified to offer the Program to students.
- 1.12 Program description: See exhibit A attached for the description of the practicum/fieldwork requirements.

## **2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOOL DISTRICT**

- 2.1 Access. School District shall permit nonexclusive access to the Program to those students designated by University as eligible for participation in the Program at School District provided such access does not unreasonably interfere with the regular activities at School District. School District agrees to provide qualified students with field experience opportunities as appropriate to the level of understanding and education of such students and as appropriate to the provision of quality care and privacy of School District pupils.
- 2.2 Implementation of Program. School District agrees to cooperate with and assist in the planning and implementation of the Program at School District for the benefit of students from University.
- 2.3 Supervision: School District shall provide for the supervision of University students in their field experience at School District school(s) by a properly credentialed school counselor provided by the School District.
- 2.4 Space and Storage. At School District's discretion, it will provide students with a workspace at the School District school(s) and with an acceptable amount of storage space for University's instructional materials for use in the Program, subject to reasonable availability.
- 2.5 Removal of Students. In the event that any University student, in the sole discretion of School District, fails to perform satisfactorily, fails to follow School District policies, procedures and regulations, or fails to meet School District standards for health, safety, security, cooperation or ethical behavior, School District shall have the right

to request that University withdraw the student from the Program. University shall comply with School District's request within five (5) days of receipt of written notice from School District. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event of any emergency or if any student represents a threat to safety or personnel, School District may immediately exclude any student from School District until final resolution of the matter with University.

- 2.6 Documentation. School District agrees to make available to qualified students of University a copy of its policies and procedures, rules and regulations, and other relevant information in order that students obtain the benefit of such documentation and in order that students comply with such policies and rules.
- 2.7 Statement of Adequate Staffing. School District acknowledges that it has adequate counseling staffing and that students participating in the Program shall not be required to substitute for any school district contracted employee necessary for reasonable staffing coverage.
- 2.8 Authority. School District shall maintain at all times full authority over and responsibility for care of its pupils and may intervene and/or redirect University students when appropriate or necessary.
- 2.9 Insurance. School District agrees to maintain professional liability insurance at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. Further, School District agrees to maintain comprehensive general liability insurance at a minimum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) in aggregate throughout the course of this Agreement. School District shall ensure that such policies provide for notification to University at least thirty (30) days in advance of any material modification or cancellation of such coverage. School District also agrees to maintain statutory Workers' Compensation coverage on any individuals characterized as employees of School District working at School District pursuant to this Agreement at all times during the course of this Agreement. School District shall provide certificates evidencing all coverage referred to in this section within thirty (30) days of execution of this Agreement and thereafter, on an annual basis.

### **3. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES**

- 3.1 Term. The term of this Agreement shall commence as of the Effective Date and shall continue for three (3) years unless terminated sooner as provided herein.
- 3.2 Termination. Either party may terminate this Agreement at any time and for any reason upon at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party. To the extent reasonably possible, School District will attempt to limit its termination of this Agreement without cause so as to allow the completion of student training for the then current academic year by any student who, at the date of said notice by School District, was satisfactorily participating in the Program.
- 3.3 Independent Contractor. In the performance of the obligations under this Agreement, it is mutually understood and agreed that University is at all times acting and performing as an independent contractor. Nothing in this Agreement is intended nor shall be construed to create between School District and University an employer/employee relationship, a joint venture relationship, or a lease or landlord/tenant relationship. Students shall maintain the status of learners and

neither this Agreement nor any acts pursuant to it shall be deemed to create an employment or agency relationship between School District and any University student.

- 3.4 Role of Students. It is not the intention of University or School District that any students occupy the position of third party beneficiary of any obligations assumed by School District or University pursuant to this Agreement.
- 3.5 Publicity. Neither University nor School District shall cause to be published or disseminate any advertising materials, either printed or electronically transmitted, which identifies the other party or its facilities with respect to the Program without the prior written consent of the other party.
- 3.6 Records. It is understood and agreed that all records, other than student evaluation records and information, shall remain the property of School District.

#### **4. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 4.1 Entire Agreement; Amendment. This Agreement contains the complete and full agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and shall supersede all other agreements relative to the subject matter hereof by and between the parties. This Agreement may be amended but only by an instrument in writing signed by both parties to the Agreement.
- 4.2 Assignment. Neither party shall subcontract, assign its rights or delegate its duties under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other party. This Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of successors and permitted assigns of each party.
- 4.3 Indemnification. Except as otherwise may be provided in this Agreement, each party shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the other party from any and all loss, liability, claim, lawsuit, injury, expense or damage whatsoever including but not limited to attorneys' fees and court costs, arising out of, incident to or in any manner occasioned by the performance or nonperformance by such indemnifying party, its officers, directors, regents, agents, employees, students, or subcontractors, of any covenant or condition of this Agreement or by the negligence, improper conduct or intentional acts or omissions of such indemnifying parties, its officers, directors, regents, agents, employees, students, or subcontractors.
- 4.4 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Any action arising out of this Agreement shall be instituted and prosecuted only in a court of proper jurisdiction in Orange County, California.
- 4.5 Non-Discrimination. Neither party shall discriminate against any University student on the basis of race, age, religion, sex, color, creed, national origin, handicap, disability or sexual preference, except to the extent that religious freedom exemptions apply. In addition, the parties will fully comply with any and all applicable local, state and federal anti-discrimination regulations, statues and judicial decisions.
- 4.6 Notices. Any and all notices permitted or required by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given (a) on the date personally delivered; (b) three business days after being mailed by United States post, certified

and return receipt requested; or (c) one business day after being sent by nationally recognized overnight courier, properly addressed as follows or such other address as may later be designated by the party:

School District: Mt. Diablo Unified School District  
1936 Carlotta Drive  
Concord, CA 94519  
Attn: Stephanie Roberts

University: Concordia University Irvine  
1530 Concordia West  
Irvine, CA 92612  
Attn: Office of the Provost  
[provost@cui.edu](mailto:provost@cui.edu)  
Copy to General Counsel

- 4.7 Severability. The provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed severable and if any portion shall be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Agreement shall be effective and binding upon the parties.
- 4.8 Waiver. Any waiver of any terms, covenants and/or conditions hereof must be in writing and signed by the parties hereto. A waiver of any of the terms, covenants and/or conditions hereof shall not be construed as a waiver of any other terms, covenants and/or conditions hereof nor shall any waiver constitute a continuing waiver.
- 4.9 Program Description: Refer to Exhibit A for the description of the practicum and fieldwork program.

**SIGNATURE PAGE**

THIS AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE:

STARTING \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, **2020** THROUGH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, **2023**.

(Three year agreement – May be renewed with consent of both parties)

**SCHOOL DISTRICT:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name: Dr. Peter Senkbeil – Concordia University, Irvine, CA.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Exhibit A**

During the course of the Practicum or Fieldwork experience, the Practicum or Fieldwork experience student will complete the approved Concordia University Practicum or Fieldwork experience portions of the program.

- a. The duration for the Practicum or Fieldwork experience will be determined prior by the School District and Concordia University for each Practicum or Fieldwork experience student. It is intended that this Practicum or Fieldwork experience encompass a period of at least one term and will not exceed the time limits as listed below:

Practicum: Not to exceed 1 calendar year

- b. Fieldwork experience: 1 calendar year at full time (non-internship) OR b) 2 calendar years at part-time. The School District and Concordia will cooperatively develop and implement a support system for each Practicum or Fieldwork experience student.
- c. The Practicum or Fieldwork experience student will be provided experience and practice in the school and classroom. Anticipated duties are listed below. Duties will vary according to available opportunities on the site, as determined by the District. The Practicum/Fieldwork experience activities will be determined using the Planning Document based upon the California Standards for the Counseling Profession.

Practicum Duties – 100 hours required (University/School District-level):

- 1) Peer counseling related to university or college program practicum course
- 2) Personal and career assessment
- 3) Personal counseling experience in either individual or group context
- 4) School-based programs serving parents and family members
- 5) Community service programs serving children and families
- 6) School related experience such as "shadowing" a school counselor, observing classroom instruction, attending district and school-based meetings, and become familiar with school-based community resources
- 7) Become familiar with special needs students; Gifted and Talented programs; attend/observe IEP/504 meetings; assessment and evaluation activities; Common Core instructional activities; Student Study teams; master schedule activities; etc.

Fieldwork Experience Duties – 600 hours required (University/District-level):

- 1) Continue to participate in any duties or activities listed under the practicum section
- 2) Perform functions of school counselors in school counseling domains
- 3) Work with diversity programs
- 4) Work with the development and implementation of a program that addresses diversity issues
- 5) Work with individuals and groups of a racial and ethnic background different from that of the candidate
- 6) Gain experience at two different settings: elementary, middle school, or high school
- 7) Participate in group supervision throughout the Fieldwork experience