

PROGRAM AND PRACTICUM INFORMATION FOR TRENT B.ED. APPLICANTS

Congratulations on your offer of admission to the Trent B.Ed. program! The following document outlines several important details about the program. Please take care to read it over carefully; acceptance of the offer of admission constitutes an agreement that you have read and fully understand the program information as outlined below.

1. OUR SHARED COMMITMENT TO EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

At the Trent School of Education, we endeavour to provide quality teacher education, which includes a deep commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion. We expect our candidates to share this commitment and be committed to social justice values while at the School of Education and throughout their careers as educators. We hope those candidates who join us will become changemakers in the field.

2. LOCATION OF FOUR PRACTICUM AND TWO PLACEMENTS

All Teacher Candidates need to complete four classroom practicum (Blocks A, B, C and D) and two field placements: the Literacy Support Placement (LSP) and the Alternative Settings Placement (ASP).

The School of Education is proud of the outstanding partnerships that we have built with local school boards in the east-central region of Ontario. These partnerships directly benefit Teacher Candidates who have the opportunity to work with schools and teachers who know our program well and understand the needs of our Teacher Candidates. One key aspect of this relationship is that all classroom practicums and the Literacy Support Placement (LSP) will be arranged by direct communication between the School of Education and the school or board partner in question.

Teacher Candidates do not arrange their own classroom practicums (or LSP), and regrettably, we cannot take requests on specific locations due to the volume of demand and competing needs/preferences of many Teacher Candidates. If a Teacher Candidate (or someone acting on their behalf) makes an arrangement, it will be considered a conflict of interest, and the Teacher Candidate will be assigned elsewhere.

Prior to you commencing the B.Ed. program, the Practicum Office will request your preferred location during placements and practicum, for the purpose of limiting your travel time wherever possible. But please be aware that your practicum could potentially be *anywhere* within any of our partner school boards (see below), and some of your practicums will be further away from your preferred location than others.

It will be your responsibility to arrange your transportation to each of your practicums. We recognize that travel to practicums can sometimes be expensive and time-consuming, and we spend great effort to limit this as much as possible. However, applicants to the Trent B.Ed. program should be aware that our partner school boards are geographically spread out and some schools are not served by public transit.

There are many factors weighing on the location-arranging process; we endeavour to approach this process as fairly as possible, but those entering the program need to be aware that some Teacher Candidates may need to travel further to some Practicum locations than others. Once you are informed of a Practicum that has been arranged for you, we are not able to entertain any requests for changes.

OUR PARTNER SCHOOL BOARDS

PUBLIC STREAM	CATHOLIC STREAM
Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB	Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington Catholic DSB
Durham DSB	Durham Catholic DSB
Trillium Lakelands DSB <i>(mainly the southern and eastern part of the board)</i>	
Hastings Prince Edward DSB <i>(western part of the board)</i>	

Practicum and Placement Dates

Literacy Support Placement 10-day equivalent	Year 1: September-December 2026 <i>(2 mornings per week during this time*)</i> * P/J will be every Wed. & Fri. morning & I/S will be every Tues. and Thurs. morning. Exact dates TBD
Block A Classroom Practicum Year 1: 4 weeks	Year 1: November - December 2026 Exact dates TBD
Block B Classroom Practicum Year 1: 5 weeks	Year 1: February - April 2027 Exact dates TBD
Alternative Settings Placement* 15 days (school setting) OR 75 hours (non-school setting)	Normally this placement would be completed at some point between April 2027 and the end of August 2027, but some Teacher Candidates may elect to complete this during the academic year in Year 1; this placement has timing flexibility but needs to be approved by your Faculty Advisor. * Please note that this is the only placement for which you will choose the location of your placement; more information will be provided later.
Block C Classroom Practicum Year 2: 4 weeks*	Year 2: An observation week in September 2027, plus four teaching weeks in November/December 2027 (specific dates TBD)
Block D Classroom Practicum Year 2: 5 weeks*	Year 2: Five weeks in February - April 2028 (specific dates TBD)

Please note that you may not receive payment of any kind for your practicums and placements, or any portion of duty associated with them.

3. CANDIDATES NEED TO MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRANSPORTATION

We cannot take into account individual circumstances such as access to a vehicle when arranging practicum and placements. Candidates will assume all travel costs related to attending practicum and placements. Many Teacher Candidates car-pool to get to their practicum schools, but the Practicum Office does not coordinate car-pooling, and does not guarantee that you will be placed at a school with other Teacher Candidates present. The School of Education will distribute a Transportation List with Practicum locations of those Teacher Candidates who have given us direct permission to do so, which you may use to help coordinate arrangements for your Practicum travel with other Teacher Candidates. Please note that many of our partner schools are not on public transportation routes.

4. YOUR CLASS SCHEDULE

In approximately May or June, you will be asked for information related to course preference timing for courses in the upcoming year. There is only a very limited amount of timing options that are available, but we will do our best to give you a schedule that takes your preference into consideration. We will create your schedule on the basis of taking all Teacher Candidates' preferences into consideration and scheduling students accordingly. We will provide you with your schedule as soon as possible (our goal is by the end of July).

Overall, those joining the B.Ed. program should ensure that they are available Monday to Friday between 9am and 8pm; most classes take place 9am-5pm, but some evening classes also occur. You will normally have 14-16 hours of class per week (this will vary slightly between P/J and I/S level). This time may not be evenly distributed across the week.

The schedule you receive will be final; we regret that we will not be able to consider schedule change requests.

As a professional program, in-person attendance in B.Ed. classes is required throughout the program. If you have a part-time job that conflicts with B.Ed. class times, you will be expected to either make arrangements for your hours at work to be altered, or to discontinue the job that is creating the conflict. If that is not feasible for you, please note that regrettably the B.Ed. program may not be the right option for you to pursue at the present. We would be happy to discuss the option of deferring your offer of admission for one year, if you anticipate that your schedule might provide you with more flexibility a year later.

5. LITERACY AND MATH PROFICIENCY

We believe that all our Teacher Candidates have the capacity to be successful in the B.Ed. program, and specifically within their teaching practicums in the schools. An important element of that success will be your ability to meet the curricular needs of students in all subject areas. To support Teacher Candidates in achieving that success, all Teacher Candidates (P/J and I/S) will undertake a proficiency assessment in both literacy and mathematics in the first two weeks of the program. For Teacher Candidates whom we identify as needing extra support in one or both areas, there will be a required additional support class(es) in the first year of the program.

There will be no additional cost for attending the course(s). While achieving a final "pass" on course material will not be required to progress in the program, Teacher Candidates identified as needing the course(s) will be required to attend the full duration of the course(s) as part of the core program requirements.

6. REGARDING POSITIVE VULNERABLE SECTOR SEARCH RESULTS

If your VSC is returned to us as a "positive" (i.e. there is an issue of concern on the search record from the police), then we may request more information of you. That may include documents such as an incident report related to the offense. In such cases, we will need to discuss the situation with our partner school board(s) to determine if they would be willing to host you on practicums during your time in the program. The outcome of this process may result in your Offer of Admission being rescinded, or in your participation in the program being discontinued.

If the School of Education elects to maintain your Offer of Admission under such circumstances, it is with the understanding that you recognize that the Ontario College of Teachers (the body that will eventually approve your Ontario teaching credential) will conduct their own investigation into the matter at the time that you apply for your teaching certification (after completing the B.Ed.). It is in no way assured that they will license you under such circumstances, even if Trent has approved you to attend the B.Ed. program. The university in no way bears any responsibility under such circumstances.

VSC for Public School Board Teacher Candidates

Due to new requirements from our partner public school boards, you will be required to obtain a VSC, four times over your two years in the program, as some boards request a VSC to be completed every 6 months.

7. COURSE SUPPLEMENTARY FEES

In addition to the tuition and general fee charges discussed on the university website related to attending the B.Ed. program, please note there is an additional Supplementary Fee related to attending courses and other general expenses, which varies by course in the program. This fee is normally less than \$300 per year, and it is charged during the academic year (normally prior to the end of first term). The fee covers assorted course-related materials and costs, including guest speakers, equipment, specialized learning materials, specialized space requirements, and duplicating costs. You will be notified when the fee has been charged to your account, and what the exact amount of the fee has been.

ACCEPTING YOUR OFFER!

Accepting your Offer of Admission to the B.Ed. program constitutes an agreement that you recognize and fully accept the information provided in this document, as well as details outlined on the "B.Ed. Accepted - Next Steps" page of our website. Please take time to read all information carefully to ensure that this program is the right match for your needs. We look forward to having the opportunity to work with you over the next two years as you begin your journey as a future educator!