# Specialist in Learning Behavior

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<tr>
<th>WHAT &amp; WHERE</th>
<th>Practicum</th>
<th>Field-based Programs</th>
<th>Student Teaching</th>
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<td>Within an hour of ISU</td>
<td>Macon-Piatt McIntosh County</td>
<td>Chicago area and Central IL</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>McLean County</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pekin-Peoria*</td>
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<td>Chicagoland</td>
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Map of Student Teaching Options

Counties used regularly
Counties used occasionally

Information shown is subject to change based on availability of personnel.
What is the LBS 1 Field Based Program?

- Each student is assigned to one location for the first semester of the senior year. At this location, you will be assigned to a cooperating teacher (CT) for the majority of each week and will complete coursework at the location or on campus.

- The Field Based Program allows students to gain extensive hands-on practice and creates opportunities to connect theory with practice.

- After FB, students move to student teaching. You will request your student teaching location later in the program.
Field Based Selection Process

- Location size is determined by site and departmental needs and may not be equal in size.
- Students requesting Pekin-Peoria (in fall) or Macon-Piatt as their first choice will have their requests honored.
- To be considered for CPS, it must be ranked first.
- Remaining students are randomly assigned based on their preferences.
- Each semester some students are placed in their last choice.
Field Based Selection Process

• Survey completed during the Practicum Registration Meeting (PRM).
• Locations will be determined within a few weeks of the last PRM.
• Do NOT sign a lease for your field base semester until you know your assigned location.
Field Based Posting

• Postings will be located on the Special Education bulletin board located outside DeGarmo 56.
• The posting of the list will be announced on Reggienenet.
• Placements must be checked in person. No phone calls or e-mails will be accepted.
McLean County Field Based Program

- Coursework is completed on campus on Tuesday and Thursday from 1-4 with occasional evening sessions.
- Will be in the field full days on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday as well as Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
Highlights of McLean County Field Based Program

- Students have easy access to campus services and resources.
- Many of the cooperating teachers are alumni, have a strong bond to the university, and have partnered with us since the beginning.
What should you consider before choosing McLean FB?

- Reggienet is utilized to incorporate online components for the instructional modules
- Campus life can be a distraction for students
- Some schools start classes at 7 am
Students’ Comments: McLean FB

• “In McLean FB we have a sense of community. Our Reggienet community adds to this, and we are able to help one another.”

• “McLean FB offers a highly supported opportunity to come to grips with the equally high demand placed on us as teachers.”
• Only available for fall FB semesters
• Student Teaching in Pekin-Peoria is still an option for both fall & spring semesters regardless of FB location
• Coursework is completed on campus one full day per week.
• Candidates typically live on campus and commute (45 minutes).
Highlights of Pekin-Peoria Field Based Program

- Urban setting for Peoria placements with the opportunity to teach students from culturally diverse backgrounds
- Opportunities to carpool
- Many cooperating teachers work with teacher candidates every semester
Students’ Comments: Pekin-Peoria FB

• “Although Peoria wasn’t my first choice, I am glad that I was here. I learned things that I wouldn’t have learned anywhere else.”
• “The relationships that were built with children, cooperating teachers, and supervisors made the long drive worth the effort.”
• “I was nervous about being in a Peoria high school setting, but now I love the students and the school.”
Macon-Piatt Field Based Program

• Candidates are placed in Macon-Piatt Counties (Decatur area or rural communities).
• Coursework is completed in a Decatur-area location one full day per week.
• Candidates may live on campus and commute (55 minutes) or move to the Macon-Piatt area.
What should you consider before choosing Macon-Piatt FB?

- Living in Decatur is affordable and saves hours a week of driving. Contact Shannon Mittleman @ sdmittl@ilstu.edu for help in locating apartments or roommates.
- If you stay in Bloomington, consider living on the outskirts of the city to save time. Carpool options are available.
Highlights of Macon-Piatt Field Based Program

• Opportunity to be placed in *either* urban or rural placements
• Opportunity to network for future job openings
• Many schools have cutting-edge technology available
Highlights of Macon-Piatt Field Based Program

• Additional support from the Decatur Teacher Education Pipeline
  – Networking opportunities
  – Help with finding housing
  – Urban preparation professional development sessions
  – Decatur tours
Students’ Comments: Macon-Piatt FB

• “I was surprised about the variety and quality of the programs within the Macon-Piatt Special Education District.”

• “I have learned so much this semester. I wasn’t sure I wanted to be in Macon-Piatt at first, but now I am so glad I was here. It has been great.”
Chicagoland Field Based Program

• Candidates are placed in a school within an hour commute from their residence for 4 days per week.
• Coursework is completed on Thursdays from approximately 8:30-3:30 at Braun Center in Oak Forest.
• Students commute from their residence to Oak Forest on Thursdays.
Highlights of Chicagoland Field Based Program

- Diversity of placements is extensive.
- Enhances preparedness for job interviews in the area.
What should you consider before choosing Chicagoland FB?

- Chicagoland FB placements demand a high level of independence and resourcefulness. The distance among clinical sites and the weekly module class results in less face-to-face interaction with peers.
- Candidates will have to commute regardless of traffic, weather, construction, etc. Carpooling is not usually an option.
What should you consider before choosing Chicagoland FB?

- Candidates that need access to the writing lab, library, technology support, health services, or counseling services should not request Chicagoland FB.
- Living at home may have demands that are not conducive to a busy semester.
Students’ comments: Chicagoland FB

• “To be successful within the Chicago program you need to be driven, committed, and willing to go the extra mile. FB is only a small glimpse of the road ahead of you as a special educator, but with Chicago area FB as that small glimpse, you are surely ready to charge the road ahead.”

• “Chicago FB is hard, but not in an impossible way. It is not difficult without reason. It truly prepares students for what is coming next.”
Chicago Public Schools (CPS) Field Based Program

- Only available for fall FB semesters
  - *Grant funded program; based on availability of grant funds
- Student Teaching in CPS is still an option for both fall & spring semesters regardless of FB location
- Module is one full day per week at the Chicago Teacher Education Pipeline office: 2934 W Lake Street, Chicago 60612
Highlights of CPS Field Based Program

- Engage in meaningful dialogue with local community organizations
- Opportunity for a full-year clinical (field base & student teaching) across two CPS schools sites
- Many candidates are securing teaching positions in CPS each year
What should you consider before choosing CPS FB?

• Candidates that need access to the writing lab, library, technology support, health services, or counseling services should not request CPS FB.
• Student housing is available: http://teacherpipeline.illinoisstate.edu/programs/student-teaching/housing.php
• Please note that the school placement may not be in the same neighborhood as housing
  – Candidates can live with family/friends IN the city or utilize the very affordable housing
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