



Education Course Offerings: Guidance on use of NLPS Education Professions and Cadet Teaching

This memo provides information on the Cadet Teaching Experience course (0502) and the Education Professions Next Level Program of Study to help schools make decisions about course offerings. Several schools have recently sought clarity in this area as part of the NLPS implementation process.

Background: The Education Professions NLPS provides students with an understanding of the teaching profession (along with an understanding of child and adolescent development), best practices in education, and real-world observation and experience in a classroom setting. The program of study is aligned to postsecondary credits, including an Elementary Education program that may allow students to transfer to a 4-year bachelor's degree program after one year at Ivy Tech.

The Cadet Teaching course is meant to be exploratory in nature and does not include any specific standards. The course is not part of a CTE program of study and receives no CTE funding.

Cadet Teaching as WBL: Several schools have inquired about using Cadet Teaching as a WBL experience to go along with the Education Professions program of study. This is unnecessary and may reduce potential CTE funding. The Ed Professions course sequence has a significant amount of time available for classroom observations and participation, including 150 hours embedded in the capstone course. If additional time is needed, it is possible to use the newly developed Technical Skills Development course along with one of the Concentrator A and Concentrator B courses.

Cadet Teaching as Alternative to NLPS Education Professions: The Office of CTE does not recommend the use of the Cadet Teaching Experience course (0502) as an alternative means of teacher preparation for students. The course is an elective and best serves students in grades 11 & 12.

Additional information on the NLPS Education Professions course sequence is shared below:

- The 20-hour observation requirement for each NLPS course in the sequence is not limited to K-9th grade observations, providing more opportunities and flexibility for students and schools.
- Additionally, schools who seek out further opportunities for hands-on education experiences and work-based learning can pair the Concentrator A or B course with the Technical Skills Development course for additional time, along with funding at an introductory level.

Summary: Schools are encouraged to offer the Education Professions course sequence whenever possible to provide maximum opportunities to those students interested in the education career field.