

From the [Student Teaching Handbook](#):

- Student teaching (clinical practice) shall consist of a full semester including no fewer than 60 school days. These include days when the school building is closed due to holidays or inclement weather. A school day begins when teachers are expected to report, and ends when the teachers are permitted to leave. There are no excused absences.

*The student is expected to be at their placement every day that the cooperating teacher is. Student teachers are expected to take on the full teaching experience and related responsibilities of the cooperating teacher. This includes attendance at activities before or after school and in the evening, as well as attendance during in-service, conference, and testing days. The student teaching start/stop dates coincide with the first/last day of classes at Rider. However, during the semester, the student teacher should follow the calendar of the school district where they are placed.

* Student teachers must obtain permission from the cooperating teacher and the college supervisor should the student teacher wish to attend a professional conference, audition, or job interview.

- The student is required to inform both the cooperating teacher and the college supervisor if s/he will be absent from school. Cooperating teachers should notify the college supervisor immediately of excessive unannounced absences or tardiness.

- Unexcused absences from field placements are not permitted. Absences determined to be excessive by the cooperating teacher and college supervisor will result in a lower grade. In the event of illness, the student is expected to notify the cooperating teacher, the principal's office, and the Westminster Choir College supervisor. If the total number of sick days exceeds three, days will be made up during exam week at the discretion of the department and the cooperating teacher. If the total exceeds five days, special arrangements will be necessary to make up the days. In some cases, the department may require the student to repeat the entire student teaching experience.