



EASTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY™

College of Education

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It is the policy of the teacher education program at Eastern Illinois University that undergraduate student teachers may not be used as substitute teachers (whether paid or unpaid) during the duration of their formal student teaching assignment.

Furthermore, it is the expectation of the program that, at all times, undergraduate student teachers must be under the direct supervision of a physically present, certificated teacher or administrator.

In circumstances in which the school is not able to locate a substitute teacher (whether holding a valid teaching, substitute, administrative, or student services credential), EIU student teachers have been instructed that they are not to agree to substitute teach for any period time, no matter how short, and should immediately contact their EIU student teaching coordinator for guidance. Please note that the use of paraprofessionals, parents, or other, non-certificated adults is not allowed in this regard.

EIU acknowledges that not only is there a significant teacher shortage at this time, but that the substitute teacher shortage is even more pronounced. However, it is the view of the EIU Teacher Education Program that these shortages do not override our policy of undergraduate student teachers being prohibited from substituting during their student teaching placement.

Finally, we acknowledge that other university teacher education programs may allow their student teachers to substitute, and that is certainly their right. We have discussed this issue numerous times at EIU, and remain committed to our policy.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

Christy Hooser

Associate Dean and Teacher Licensure Officer
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