



Educator Preparation & State Licensure Programs (EPP)
School of Education
College of Nursing, Education, & Health Sciences

Dear Candidate:

We are pleased you have decided to pursue a career in the field of education! Teaching has changed dramatically over the past 10 years, and the Educator Preparation Program at Shepherd University continues to evolve to stay on the cutting edge of preparing teachers for their changing role within the field. Our continuing emphasis on Teacher as Reflective Problem Solver is one of the most contemporary themes to be found in the field today. With this emphasis comes a unique blend in theories of child and human development and how children learn coupled with practical applications of such theories in today's P-12 classrooms. In addition, we encourage our teacher candidates to become learners who move from becoming memorizers of information to demonstrators of competence through decision-making and application of the knowledge they have constructed. Our focus on reflection and problem solving may be new to many of our candidates; engaging in this new focus will take a serious commitment on your part to fully participate in the necessary dialogue, introspection, and construction of knowledge such a new focus entails.

To assist you as you progress through the Educator Preparation Program [EPP], we have prepared this handbook to provide you an understanding of the overall Policies and Procedures of the EPP at Shepherd. We encourage you to read this handbook thoroughly and refer to it often throughout your journey at SU. It is your responsibility to know the policies and procedures, deadlines, and requirements presented herein and throughout your individual program of study. If you should have any questions, your faculty advisor and/or the Director of the School of Education will be available to speak with you at any time.

The policies and procedures contained in this handbook at the time of your admission to the Educator Preparation Program will be in effect for you immediately upon your admission; however, policies and procedures may be updated as various regulations change and situations arise that require and mandate immediately applicable and enforceable revisions. Keep this handbook accessible for reference throughout your tenure at Shepherd University and ensure that you stay current with any such revisions, which will be provided online via the [Shepherd / School of Education](#) website and/or announced via the [School of Education Student Brightspace communications portal](#) for your convenience.

Sincerely,

The Educator Preparation Program (School of Education & Specialization Programs) Faculty

MAT Candidates: Please refer to the MAT Student Handbook for specific guidance regarding how these policies apply to your program.