

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
CHARLOTTE

Cato College of Education,  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and  
College of Arts and Architecture

Candidate's Statement of Commitment Regarding Dispositions

The Cato College of Education, in collaboration with the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Arts and Architecture, is responsible for preparing candidates who have the required knowledge, skills, and *professional dispositions* to become effective educators. Therefore, your chosen program of study will prepare you to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and *dispositions* expected of excellent professionals. Faculty and/or school personnel will evaluate your demonstration of these *dispositions* and provide you with feedback about your progress.

Professional Dispositions include the attitudes, values, commitments, and ethics expected of professional educators, such as the ideal of fairness and the belief that all students can learn. The Code of Ethics for North Carolina Educators, the Charlotte Code of Academic Integrity, and the Cato College of Education's Conceptual Framework more specifically articulate characteristics expected for all education professionals.

Dispositions are assessed indirectly, based on candidates' observable behavior in educational settings (NCATE, 2008).

**Impact**

- Demonstrate the belief that all individuals can succeed
- Provide encouraging feedback to all individuals
- Respect and respond to individual needs
- Provide equitable learning and development opportunities for all
- Promote positive outcomes based on assessment results

**Professional Identity and Continuous Growth**

- Maintain positive attitudes in academic and professional settings
- Demonstrate professional appearance
- Act on constructive feedback from others
- Conduct self-assessments through reflection to overcome limitations and enhance strengths
- Demonstrate self-initiated learning
- Communicate effectively and appropriately
- Show punctuality in meeting academic and professional obligations

**Leadership**

- Create opportunities for the mutual benefit of all involved
- Promote positive change through personal interactions, organizations, communities, and the profession
- Initiate, suggest, and contribute in appropriate ways
- Maintain knowledge of and disseminate information about current research and best practices

**Advocacy**

- Support and empower individuals from diverse backgrounds
- Include families and other stakeholders in planning for individual success
- Advocate for the social, emotional, physical, educational, behavioral, and basic needs of others
- Demonstrate empathy, professional self-confidence, fairness, persistence, problem-solving, and appropriate risk-taking on behalf of others

**Collaboration**

- Respond respectfully to individual perspectives and differences of others
- Engage in culturally responsive practices in interactions with learners, families, communities, and colleagues
- Share information and ideas with others
- Cooperate with university, school, and community personnel
- Collaborate to resolve differences and solve problems respectfully and reflectively

**Ethics**

- Demonstrate honesty, integrity, fairness, respect for others and confidentiality
- Comply with laws, policies, and procedures
- Accept responsibility for personal actions and behaviors
- Follow professional codes of ethics and the UNC Charlotte Code of Academic Integrity and Student Responsibility
- Disclose any unlawful activity upon application to and throughout the program
- Pass criminal background checks and drug screening, as required
- Create and maintain appropriate interpersonal relationships in all settings

*I have read the dispositions and indicators above. I agree that dispositions are important to being an effective, professional educator. I am committed to both growth and excellence in demonstrating these dispositions. I understand that progress in my professional education program depends upon successful demonstration of these dispositions.*

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Licensure Area \_\_\_\_\_

Signature #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_