



Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools as the Local Educational Agency
For the North Coast School of Education Teacher Induction Program,
and
Participating School Districts and Employing Agencies within Sonoma County

A. General

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools, serving as the Local Education, Agency (LEA) for the North Coast Teacher Induction Program and districts, schools, employing agencies, independent charter schools, and non-public schools (collectively “District” all within **Sonoma County**) signing below. The term of this MOU commences on **July 1, 2026**, and terminates on **June 30, 2027**.

B. Purpose

The purpose of the MOU is to establish a formal working relationship between the parties. The Program will provide and coordinate services and support to guide Candidates in meeting California credential requirements through the state-accredited Teacher Induction Credential Programs: Clear General Education Credential and Clear Education Specialist Credential. Throughout this document, new teachers are referred to as “Candidates” and experienced teachers are referred to as “Mentors.”

C. Eligibility

Eligible “Candidates” are those hired within the following credential and program categories;

- **Teacher Induction Program:** Candidates holding Preliminary Multiple Subject, Single Subject, or Education Specialist Credential (Preliminary & Level 1), Out of State and Out of Country trained teachers. Candidates must hold the CA Preliminary Credential by the close of the enrollment period.

D. LEA Responsibilities

1. Employ an NCSOE Director whose primary duty is to administer the Program and employ Support Staff whose primary duty is to support the administration of the Program.
2. Provide sufficient and appropriate workspace for the NCSOE Director, Program Support Staff, Program Coordinators, Registrar and Credential Advisors.
3. Provide office support services for the Consortium, including, but not limited to, mail service, phone, fax, Internet services, technology support, and meeting space for Program activities.
4. Provide business and legal services required for Program implementation for the region.
5. Develop and establish procedures for Program evaluation through the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) Accreditation Cycle. Submit Preconditions, Common Standards, Program Review state reports, and required fees in a timely manner.
6. Provide a two-year, individualized, job-embedded Teacher Induction Program to support Candidates holding a Preliminary Credential beginning in their first year of teaching.
7. Provide a process for equitable distribution of mentoring, support, formative assessment, and credential services to Candidates and Mentors in all participating Districts within the county.
8. Convene Program Regional Advisory Board meetings a minimum of two times per year and District Coordinators’ meetings two times per year.
9. Develop and orient Candidates and their Mentors to the Teacher Induction Program. The program shall ensure that appropriate information, resources, and personnel are clearly identified and accessible to support each Candidate’s understanding and attainment of program requirements.
10. The program shall provide ongoing training and support for Mentors, aligned with State Induction Standards, including a systematic evaluation of Mentors.
11. Assume overall fiscal responsibility for the administration of the Program budget, including submission of year-end

expenditure reports and any other documentation required by CCTC and/or CDE in relation to the Program.

12. Establish a Budget Agreement and reporting requirements.

E. District Responsibilities

1. Appoint a District Coordinator and/or assign a credential analyst whose assignment includes dedicated time to fulfill the District Coordinator Roles and Responsibilities to work directly with Program staff to assist in identifying Candidates who are eligible for Program services as described by state guidelines.
2. Appoint a liaison to serve on the Program Regional Advisory Board. The liaison should be a designee authorized by the District Superintendent to fulfill the roles and responsibilities assigned to them. The liaison supports the Program by providing ongoing updates, communication, feedback for future planning and information to county office personnel, university staff, and district superintendents. The liaison also receives program updates to share out with their colleagues.
3. Communicate to all site administrators the need to support Teacher Induction Program participants through (1) assigning a qualified mentor, (2) program work and employer input in the Candidates' development of an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) within the first 60-days of hire, and (3) through the collaborative goal-setting meetings at the start of each inquiry. Employer must include release time (at the expense of the district) to support participants in required observations (one per semester) and/or observations of colleagues.
4. Employer understands that the ILP is used to guide professional development and not for the purpose of teacher evaluation or employment decisions.
5. Provide Candidates release time for observations and one-to-one consultations with the Mentor as described in the District Roles and Responsibilities.
6. Make every effort to assign Candidates to classrooms appropriate to their novice status, avoiding whenever possible, combination classrooms, secondary assignments with multiple preps, teaching assignments at multiple sites, and multiple adjunct duties.
7. Provide newly-hired teachers with a District Orientation.
8. Collaborate with NCSOE Program Lead to ensure completion of Program requirements and manage consequences (i.e., need for additional inquiry work) when necessary.
9. Assign a qualified Mentor to each eligible Candidate within 30 days of enrollment in the Program. Mentors must meet the Commission's identified criteria:
 - Hold a valid corresponding Clear or Life Credential;
 - Have three (3) years effective teaching experience;
 - Hold an English learner authorization.
10. Pair Candidates with Mentors who most closely match their teaching assignment, including grade level and subject matter, and their credential. NCSOE can, upon request at an additional cost, provide a NCSOE Mentor for those districts unable to find suitable matches for current program participants. An Addendum to this MOU will be provided, upon request of a NCSOE Mentor.
11. Utilize defined selection criteria to identify high-quality, experienced teachers who demonstrate exemplary teaching practices as determined by the employer to serve as Mentors for Candidates. Mentors must demonstrate effective coaching, interpersonal and communication skills and:
 - Knowledge of the context and the content area of the Candidate's teaching assignment;
 - Demonstrated commitment to professional learning and collaboration with colleagues and regional NCSOE staff;
 - Ability, willingness, and flexibility to meet Candidate needs for support;
 - Employ evidence-based practices in providing "just in time" (as needed) and longer-term analysis of teaching practice to help Candidates develop enduring professional skills;
 - Attend trainings and meetings;
 - Meet weekly with Candidates for a minimum of 1 hour per week;
 - Embrace a positive attitude and disposition towards students and teaching;
 - Develop a sustained and thoughtful collegial relationship with Candidates;
 - Demonstrate leadership skills, curriculum expertise, and knowledge of district resources;
 - Serve as a role model for the teaching profession.
12. Provide Mentors compensated time to participate in the Program Mentor trainings.

13. Provide meeting and conference rooms at no charge to the Program.
14. Participate in the Program evaluation and the CCTC Accreditation Cycle, as needed.

F. Districts Fiscal Responsibilities and Terms

1. Credential Services are provided on a Fee-for-Service basis. In 2026-27, the Fee will be \$2,500.00 per clear credential Candidate enrolled in the Program. Refer to the current Fee-for-Service schedule for additional credentialing services provided. Districts will be invoiced for each individual request for credential services. It is expected that invoices be paid promptly upon receipt or as agreed upon by both parties. No funds are returned to the distinct or employing agency.
2. The District is responsible to facilitate the compensation of funds to Mentors (and District Coordinators) except when NCSOE Mentor services are used.
3. Program Delay Requests must be submitted by the semester's program enrollment deadline (typically September 30th for Fall and January 31st for Spring) in order for sites/districts not to incur a fee. After semester's enrollment deadline has passed, NCSOE staff will review the circumstances regarding the delay and charge a non-refundable fee, unless other arrangements had previously been made. This fee will range from a minimum charge of \$350 to the total semester program fee.
4. NCSOE Mentor services are available for an additional cost to the district.

G. Other Terms and Conditions

All products and materials developed by the Program are the exclusive property of the LEA. District and COE employees, staff, and subcontractors shall not have the right to disseminate, market, or otherwise use the products or materials without the expressed written permission of the LEA designee.

As between the Parties hereto, it is understood and agreed that:

1. **Candidates Employment Status:**
Candidates are and shall remain District employees for any and all purposes throughout the term of this Agreement. Candidates shall not be considered an employee, agent, representative, nor independent contractor of LEA for any purpose whatsoever.
2. **Indemnification:**
District shall assume full responsibility for its employees. District agrees to hold and save LEA harmless from and against any claim, demand, action or cause of action that may be asserted by any District Program participant arising out of injury or death suffered by any District employee Program participants, including, but not limited to, third party actions for injury or death otherwise covered under applicable workers' compensation laws and regardless of the sole or concurring negligence of LEA.
3. **Maintenance of Records:**
District agrees to keep and maintain adequate and current written records in accordance with Program requirements during the term of this Agreement. The records will be in any format that may be specified by the State of California. The records will be available to LEA at all times.
4. **Assignment:**
This Agreement shall not be assigned by District. Any such assignment shall be null and void.
5. **Severability:**
The provisions of this Agreement are divisible; if any such provisions shall be deemed invalid or unenforceable, that provision shall be deemed limited to the extent necessary to render it valid and enforceable and the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall continue in full force and effect without being impaired or invalidated in any way.
6. **Waiver:**
No delay or omission by either party in exercising any right under this Agreement shall operate as a waiver of that or any other right. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement, or consent to any departure by either party from any provision shall be effective in any event unless it is in writing, designated a waiver and signed by the party waiving the breach. Such a waiver shall be effective only in the specific instance and for the purpose of which it is given.
7. **Constructions and Governing Law:**
The captions used in connection with this agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not be construed as part of this Agreement. This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California.

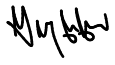
8. Entire Agreement:
This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, and communications between LEA and District, whether written or oral, express or implied, relating to the subject matter of this agreement and is intended as a complete and final expression of the terms of the agreement between LEA and District and shall not be changed or subject to change orally. The parties further agree and acknowledge that neither they nor anyone on their behalf made any inducements, agreements, promises, or representations other than those set forth in this Agreement.
9. Third Parties:
Except as otherwise explicitly provided herein, nothing in this agreement, whether expressed or implied, is intended to confer any rights or remedies under or by reason of this agreement on any other persons other than the Parties and their respective successors and assigns, nor is anything in this agreement intended to relieve or discharge the obligation or liability of any third persons to any Party, nor shall any provision give any third parties any right of subrogation or action over or against any of the Parties hereto. This Agreement is not intended to and does not create any third-party beneficiary rights whatsoever.
10. Relationship of the Parties:
No joint venture, partnership, agency or employment relationship is created by this agreement. No Party shall act as an agent or partner of any other Party or make any commitments for or create any obligations of any other Party except as provided herein without such other Party's prior written consent.
11. Compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"):
In addition to the foregoing obligations, if District provides SCOE/NCSOE with any legally confidential information including, but not limited to, confidential personnel information or "personally identifiable information" from student education records as defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and the implementing regulations in Title 34, Part 99 of the Code of Federal Regulations ("FERPA"), HOST AGENCY hereby certifies that collection of this information from District is necessary for the performance of the SCOE/NCSOE'S duties and responsibilities on behalf of District under this Agreement. SCOE/NCSOE further agrees to handle information protected by FERPA in the same manner it would protect the confidentiality of patient records and/or the personally identifiable information of its employees.

The Parties will not discriminate against any employee, applicant or student enrolled in their respective programs because of age, creed, gender identity, national origin, race, sex, sexual orientation or any other basis protected by law.
12. Survival:
The provisions of this Agreement shall survive the expiration of the Term and the termination of this Agreement. Amendments and Extensions to this MOU may be made only by written agreement signed by all parties.

Authorized Signatures:

Authorized signatures below indicate understanding and acceptance of the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Sonoma County Office of Education as LEA



Electronically signed by: Greg Medici
 Date: Apr 22, 2026 12:29:12 PDT

 Signature

Greg Medici, Deputy Superintendent
 Printed Name/Title

04/22/2026
 Date

North Coast School of Education


Electronically signed by: Eveta Jackson
 Date: Apr 7, 2026 15:09:32 PDT

 Signature

Eveta Jackson, Assistant Superintendent
 Printed Name/Title

04/07/2026
 Date

Participating Agency

Name of District, School or County Office of Education: _____

 Signature

 Printed Name/Title

 Date