

FAQs: Student Teacher Permits & Advanced Student Teacher Permits

Q1: If a student utilizes the student teaching permit, and then completes their required student teaching days, what happens for the last few days of the experience? For example, we require 70 days for elementary education student teaching, but there will be approximately 2-3 weeks left of K-12 classes after that. Does the student teaching permit still cover the student for compensation purposes within the district, or would they need to move to substitute teacher pay?

A1: Payment under the student teacher permit is optional. The amount if any is determined by the district. If they chose to sub the last few days that were not part of their assigned experience, that would be for sub pay and that amount is up to the district. Payment under the Advanced student teacher permit is not optional if they are serving as a teacher of record, but the amount is up to the district. The assumption associated with the advanced student teacher permit is that if the student teacher is acting as teacher of record, it would be for the whole semester or year, and that amount would remain the same for the whole time. Regardless of the scenario, payment by a district is local control.

Q2: If the student teacher holds the advanced student teacher permit, would the student teacher HAVE to be the teacher of record?

A2: No. While this permit would allow a student teacher to accept a position as a teacher of record, it is not required for a student teacher holding this permit to be serving as a teacher of record.

Q3: How is it determined that a student teacher has either a student teacher permit or advanced student teacher permit?

A3: There are specific coursework, tests, and expectations identified for a student teacher to hold an advanced student teacher permit. See ARSD 24:28:09 The educator prep program (EPP) is still in charge of the student teaching arrangement.

Q4: Will all student teachers have either a student teacher permit or advanced student teacher permit?

A4: No. Both student teacher permits are optional. However, holding either of the permits allows a school district to pay the student teacher during their student teaching experience.

Q5: When a teacher candidate is K12 (such as PE, special education, art education, music education, etc.), they complete six weeks of student teaching in the elementary level and six weeks of student teaching in the secondary level. If they received an advanced student teacher permit, how would these K12 candidates complete both grade level experiences for certification purposes?

A5: While the advanced permit offers both opportunity and flexibility, a teacher candidate is still a student teacher and has expectations and regulations that they are bound by through the educational preparation program. ARSD 24:53:06:03 provides further guidance regarding requirements:

- Student teachers must demonstrate competency in the job responsibilities required by their chosen program. They shall participate in professional development through self, peer, and supervisory reflection on the student teaching experience;
- Student teachers must complete a minimum of 10 weeks of supervised experiences. The student teachers must spend the majority of the 10 weeks in the subject area and age or grade span for which they are prepared;
- Student teachers who teach at least 15 weeks may earn preparation in two subject areas or grade spans if the student teaching placement meets the required balance of time in each of the subject areas or grade spans;
- Student teachers in K-12 programs must complete experiences at two levels; and
- Student teachers in birth through grade three special education programs must complete experiences at both the preschool and elementary levels.

Q6: What can a student teacher do for compensation during their student teaching experience?

A6: What a student teacher can do at a district will in part relate to what permit (s)he would qualify for. The traditional student teacher permit provides the opportunity for districts to provide monetary compensation (perhaps as a stipend) to the student teacher, but expectations and requirements are basically the same as the traditional student teaching experience that does not require a permit. It is recognized that districts have been paying student teachers for subbing, but the expectation has been that the subbing hours don't count toward their student teaching experience. The advanced student teacher permit has specific expectations and requirements to be met – and it is anticipated that not every student teacher would qualify or be a good candidate for this permit. This permit would allow a district to hire a student teacher with an advanced permit to serve as a teacher of record. However, the student teacher that holds an advanced permit is still a student teacher and bound by the guidelines, expectations, and requirements associated with their university as the final student teaching experience is still necessary for the completion of their educational program – regardless of whether they are serving as a teacher of record or not.

Q7: How should we proceed if a student teacher holding an advanced permit and serving as a teacher of record needs to be removed from the site or from the position of teacher of record? For example, what if a student teacher, who is already issued an advanced student teacher permit and has also signed a contract with a school after a period of time is no longer meeting degree program expectations and after an improvement plan has not demonstrated that they are not making adequate progress and we need to remove them from the placement in the school. Do they continue teaching in the school with whom they have a contract?

A7: The educator preparation program (EPP) is in control of the placement for a student teaching experience and the EPP provides the approval for a student teacher to receive an advanced permit. As the teacher candidate is still working toward the completion of their education program, (s)he is still a student. To cover issues such as this, it is recommended to address this in the agreement between the EPP and the school partner.

Q8: What if the student teacher recognizes they are struggling and agrees that they need to be removed so that they can better meet their degree requirements. Is that student able to break the contract with the school and would there be a penalty or negative consequence for them either from the State or the school district? If so, what would that consequence be?

A8: The educator preparation program (EPP) is in control of the placement for a student teaching experience and the EPP provides the approval for a student teacher to receive an advanced permit. As the teacher candidate is still working toward the completion of their education program, (s)he is still a student. To cover issues such as this, it is recommended to address this in the agreement between the educator prep program and the school partner.

Q9: How much should a student teacher holding a student teacher permit or advanced student teacher permit be paid?

A8: Monetary compensation of a student teacher is local control. It may be appropriate for a school district to pay a stipend to a student teacher holding a student teacher permit or advanced student teacher permit who is not serving as a teacher of record. However, it is expected that a student teacher holding an advanced permit and serving as a teacher of record is compensated commensurately. What that amount is remains local control, but needs to acknowledge the level of responsibility and work associated with serving as a teacher of record.

Q9: Why were the two different versions of the student teacher permit developed?

A9: The two types of student teacher permits acknowledge a difference in skills and abilities as well as completion of specific requirements in preparation of student teaching. The permits are intended to allow for paid student teaching experiences to help offset living expenses during a time when the student teacher may not have the ability to maintain a part-time job. The advanced student teacher permit also recognizes the challenges the state and national teacher shortage has created and is an option given to individuals who have met very specific criteria to serve as a teacher of record in a school that was unable to hire a fully certified teacher for a vacant position.

Q10: How do I apply for one of the student teacher permits?

A10: With the new certification system, initially there are two separate sign-ins.

1. Go to <https://mysd.sd.gov/> and create an account using a personal email address. Do not use your school email.
2. Upon successful creation of this account (Consumer Profile), then go to <https://www.sd.gov/educator>
3. Here you will need to create an account using that same email address.
4. Upon successful completion, you will need to create your educator profile.
 - a. On the Qualification Information screen, you must indicate your highest degree as Bachelor's to activate the option for university signoff.
 - b. You will also need to "Add" your degree information as anticipated at graduation, with a "Yes" answer to "Does your transcript reflect a student teaching, practicum, or supervised internship related to education?"
5. Once that is done, you will be able to select from the different applications by selecting the apply in the red ribbon at the top of the screen OR the red "select application" button.
 - a. Select the "Initial Educator Application" You will notice that the information from the profile has been pre-populated.
 - b. On the State Designated Tests Screen, you will need to select the tests that you have already completed and passed.
 - c. On the Certificate Types and Options Screen, click the "add" button and select:
 - i. Certificate Type: "Educator Permit"
 - ii. Preparations: "Student Teacher" or "Advanced Student Teacher"
 - iii. Endorsements: the content area(s) that match your passed Praxis exams. After all are selected then click the "add" button.
 - d. Complete the remaining questions and make payment on the application.

<p>University may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Submit electronic transcript directly to certification@state.sd.us ○ Mail official/original paper transcripts 	<p>Applicant may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mail official/original transcripts (transcripts may be removed from the sealed envelope) <p><i>Transcripts may NOT be submitted as a PDF or attached to an email.</i></p>
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