

Tips for Developing the Dispositions Portfolio

Use evidence from your program courses and experiences to “prove” that you meet the criteria for each disposition. While discussions about your personal beliefs and classrooms are worthwhile, such discussions must be paired with related course assignments and experiences that can be identified and corroborated by the Disposition Portfolio raters. Suggestions are listed below. However, include the sections of the assignments that are most relevant. Do not include complete assignments.

1. Fairness

Courses that require professional growth activities and assignments related to fairness and developing and maintaining an appropriate, inclusive classroom environment

2. The Belief That All Students Can Learn

Courses that require assessments which led to developing lessons and or teaching; specific portions of the teacher work sample; specific portions of lesson planning assignments

3. Professionalism

Course assignments that require self-reflection (especially in the Teacher Work sample); courses that require Professional Growth assignments or follow-up; courses that required teacher-created materials for lessons; courses that require group projects (planning and implementing the project as a group)

4. Resourcefulness

Course discussions where you added to your peers’ knowledge or practice; Course assignments related to proactive measures (classroom management); Course experiences/discussions that aided you in adapting to changes in your own classroom or school

5. Dependability

Include specific course discussions/assignments/group projects where you responded more than the required number of times or completed your portion of group projects in a timely manner (dated emails from peers); note from parents, classroom teachers, or principals when you completed course teaching assignments

6. Commitment to Inquiry

Courses that require research papers and/or research summaries that guide lesson development and implementation. Especially strong is how a course research assignment impacted your own classroom practice.