

# YOUTH EXPERIENCE

When applying for admission to the Richard W. Riley College of Education, all applicants must submit a completed Supportive Documentation of Youth Experience Form that verifies 25 hours of successful experiences working with youth.

***How do you verify your experience with youth?***

- Request that a supervisor complete the form provided in the application materials.
- This person must be able to verify the amount, level, kinds of interactions, and your performance in that experience.

***For all students who seek credit for this experience the following criteria must be met. The work or hours completed in fulfillment of youth experience:***

- may not be connected to any university course work.
- must be completed under the supervision of a professional administrator.
- must include active involvement / interaction with youth.
- must be completed in the time between entrance into the freshman class and application for admission (unless student was a Teacher Cadet).

***In addition to the above, the following criteria must be met for specific programs. The experience must be 25 hours spent with the age group for which licensure is sought.***

- **Early Childhood Teacher Education** – The experience must be with children between the ages of 3 and 8 (grades PK-3).
- **Elementary Teacher Education** - The experience must be with youth between the ages of 7 and 12 (grades 2-6).
- **Middle Level Education** – The experience must be with youth between the ages of 10 and 14 (grades 5-8).
- **Secondary Teacher Education** – The experience must be with youth between the ages of 14 and 18 (grades 9-12, or grade 6 if the experience is in a middle school which includes these grades).
- **Persons in a K-12 program** – The experience must be with children between the age of 5 and 18 (grades K-12).

ARE APPROPRIATE	ARE NOT APPROPRIATE
Activities completed at Winthrop University when not connected to coursework	Babysitting, serving as a nanny, and taking care of your own, friends', or relative's children.
Supervised day care work	Experience that is/was supervised by a relative
Camp counselor/worker YMCA, Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, or Saturday Morning Club	Observations in schools that do not involve actually working with students or is/was associated with coursework
Tutoring that is/was supervised	Tutoring associated with coursework
Work as a substitute teacher in K-12 schools	Work that was completed before you entered Winthrop (non-traditional students may submit request for waiver of this requirement.)
Coaching sports teams, and directing band, chorus, choir, dance troupe, or theatre productions in K-12 school setting	Experience with post-secondary youth, such as Residential Hall Assistant, tutor at the Writing Center, lab assistant, or work completed as part of the Work-Study Program
Volunteer work (e.g., Special Olympics, children's ward in a hospital or residential facility). <u>Experience must include active involvement with the youth, NOT observations, program development, or monitoring behavior</u>	
Teacher Cadet activity	

