July 2, 2015

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Murray State University’s alternative route to teacher certification in the model Special Education, Learning and Behavior Disorders (LBD) Program.

Applications will be accepted immediately on a first come first served basis. All applications must be submitted by August 15, 2015. Only complete applications will be accepted.

The information requested in the attached application packet is crucial. It provides a majority of the documentation needed to accurately prescribe an individualized course of study. The required scores for either CASE or GRE must be met before you can enter the program. You must complete that requirement this summer if you have not already done so. Please contact Dr. Alesa Walker for information on meeting that requirement. To become certified through this process (Alternative Route to Special Education Certification), you must be able to complete the entire individually prescribed program and receive a passing score on the following Praxis II examination: Special Education: Core Knowledge and Mild to Moderate Applications (5543)-passing score 158 within the first two (2) years. This includes the completion of all competencies in both educational foundations as well as special education from your individually prescribed June program. During your third year you will be required to complete the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program.

Applications for the alternative program should be submitted by August 15, 2015:
Murray State University
2101 Alexander Hall
Murray, KY 42071-3340
Attention: Dr. Alesa Walker

Sincerely,

Alesa Walker

Questions – Email: awalker@murraystate.edu; or nlovet1@murraystate.edu

Application to the Graduate School is also required

You must also be admitted to MSU as a graduate student since part of this program includes graduate coursework. A Murray State University Graduate Application is available from: http://www.murraystate.edu/downloads/gradapp.pdf. You must send the completed application and $40 to Graduate Admissions, Murray State University, P O Box 9, Murray, KY 42071. You must also request an official transcript to be mailed directly to Admissions Services from each institution attended. Please send this information to graduate admissions immediately.

Equal education and employment opportunities M/F/D, AA employer
Please include the following items with your application:

____ Original transcripts from all colleges/ universities attended (undergraduate and graduate). *This includes transcripts from Murray State.*

______ GPA 2.75 or higher

____ Essential Skills *(Must be successfully completed prior to formal admission to the program)* All candidates, including those who hold teacher certification, must take and pass one of the following:
   
   1.) CASE with a minimum score: Math 150, Reading 156, Writing 162 (beginning 9/1/2014)
   
   OR
   
   2.) GRE with a minimum Verbal 450/150, Quantitative – 490/143, and Writing – 4.0

____ A copy of your current teaching certificate – must have a statement of eligibility for LBD, Speech Language Pathology, IECE (for elementary level) or a current KY professional teaching certificate

____ Current resume

____ CA-TP signed by superintendent

____ Mentoring Plan signed by Superintendent of employing district, candidate, and mentor

I understand that this is an application to be reviewed for admission into Murray State University’s Alternative route MSD Teacher Certification Program. The submission of this application does not guarantee admission into the program. If accepted into the MSD Alternative Route to Certification Program each participant must follow the established procedures for admittance to Murray State University Graduate Program. For admittance to the graduate program: [http://www.murraystate.edu/Students/Graduate/GettingStarted/Requirements.aspx](http://www.murraystate.edu/Students/Graduate/GettingStarted/Requirements.aspx). The candidate must be enrolled in classes within 90 days.

The candidate must be enrolled in classes within 90 days. In addition, the teacher candidate acknowledges that professional certification is contingent upon the successful completion of all of the requirements of their prescribed program within three (3) years, the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program, and the required Praxis II with passing scores.

__________________________________  ______________________
Applicant’s Signature  Date
MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY  
College of Education and Human Services  
Alternative Route to MSD Teacher Certification Program  
Application for Admission

Name: __________________________  Social Security #: __________________________

Address: __________________________  Home Phone: __________________________

__________________________  Office Phone: __________________________

E-Mail: __________________________

A candidate must have possessed a bachelor’s degree for a minimum of three years prior to admission in the Alternative Route to MSD Teacher Certification Program.

Undergraduate degree: ______________________________________

Institution: _____________________________  GPA: _________________

Major/ Area: _____________________________  Date Conferred: ________________

Graduate degree or work: _____________________________

Institution: _____________________________  GPA: _________________

Major/ Area: _____________________________  Date Conferred: ________________

Application for admission to the Alternative Route to MSD Teacher Certification program may be submitted prior to obtaining a teaching position. However, formal admission to this alternative program is contingent upon the applicant submitting evidence of a valid employment contract for a teaching position in the area to certified. If applicant is currently employed as a teacher in the area in which certification is desired, please provide the following information.

School district: _____________________________

School: _____________________________

Subject(s): _____________________________

Grade level(s): _____________________________

Full Time: ______  Part Time: ______ (minimum 5 days per week/ 3 hours per day)

Name of Principal: _____________________________

Grade Point Average must be 2.75 or higher.

This program is designed solely for the purpose of obtaining MSD Teacher Certification and does not entitle the applicant to a master’s degree.
**MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY**
College of Education
Alternative Route to Teacher Certification Program
Special Education: MSD

**Certification:**
As provided by the Kentucky General Assembly, the teacher candidate participating in the University Based Alternative Route to Certification Program will receive a Temporary Provisional Certificate entitling her or him to a Rank III status or higher. At any time if the candidate is dismissed or not re-employed, the superintendent must notify Alesa Walker immediately.

**Dispositions:**
The school district has interviewed the candidate and feels he/she exhibits the disposition for the education profession. The candidate is:

- Inclusive – Is an advocate for inclusive community of people with varied characteristics, ideas and worldviews.
- Responsible – Considers consequences and makes decisions in a rational and thoughtful manner for the welfare of others; acts with integrity to pursue an objective with thoroughness and consistency.
- Enthusiastic – Is eager and passionately interested in tasks that relate to beliefs about education.
- Caring – Demonstrates regard for the learning and wellbeing of every student.
- Confident – Exhibits certainty about processing the ability, judgment, and internal resources needed to succeed as a teacher.
- Ethical – Conforms to accepted professional standards of conduct by making decisions based on standards and principles established by the education profession.

**Mentoring:**
The teacher candidate will be assigned a mentor and a plan for mentoring will be written by MSU and the school district. The signed mentoring plan should be submitted with the CA-TP.

The teacher candidate will be observed a minimum of 10 hours by the school district. Documentation of hours observed and completion of the mentoring plan will be provided to MSU via email to Dr. Nancy Lovett nlovett1@murraystate.edu by May 1, 2016.

The cost, if any, of providing a mentor for the candidate is the responsibility of the employing school district.

Regular communication between MSU and the school district will be maintained in order to assist the candidate as needed and address identified areas of improvement.

**Special Education Requirements:**
Participants will be required to spend a limited amount of time of Murray State’s campus. Anticipated training activities will include, but not limited to, one (1) Friday/Saturday training sessions per semester. Participants will need to be released from their teaching duties on those Friday afternoons. In addition, participants will be required to attend the Kentucky State Exceptional Children’s Conference in November. A series of sessions during the Exceptional Children’s Conference will be specifically designed for each alternative certification participant as prescribed by the individual’s university advisory committee.

________________________________________________________________________
Applicant’s Signature Date

________________________________________________________________________
Principal’s Signature Date

________________________________________________________________________
Superintendent’s Signature Date
MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
MENTORING PLAN
SCHOOL YEAR_______

Teacher Candidate_________________________________ Candidate SSN________________________

University Name:  Murray State University  Employing School District________________________

Alternative Route to Certification Program for LBD or MSD (circle one)

Part I. Support for the teacher candidate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBSERVATION PROVIDED BY</th>
<th>HOURS OF OBSERVATIONS TO BE PROVIDED</th>
<th>NAME AND ROLE OF MENTOR (teacher or administrator)</th>
<th>EMAIL ADDRESS</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University Mentor</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District-based Mentor</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal/Designee/District Mentor</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Planned Hours</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part 2. Description of support offered:
By working together the MSU faculty mentor and/or the coordinator and district representatives will assist the candidate to successfully meet the responsibilities and duties of teaching. Support will include but is not limited to assistance with:

- Classroom management and classroom/school climate
- Lesson planning
- Formative and Summative Assessment
- Unit Design
- Differentiated Instruction
- Student engagement
- IEP development and implementation

Other support activities may include co-teaching, observations in classrooms in the building or district, articles or videos, and video taping of classes for discussion.
COMMUNICATION PLAN

In order to support the alternative route to certification teacher, the MSU mentor will remain in contact with the district-based mentor and the principal throughout the year. Communication can be in person, by phone, or by email. Communication by the committee should take place at least three times throughout the year. The mentor will report results of meetings with the teacher to the MSU coordinator throughout the year. The teacher candidate will also participate in eMentoring with MSU personnel during the year. If there are any issues that should be addressed, additional communication may be necessary.

University Representative Signature__________________________________ Date________________

District-Based Mentor Signature_________________________________________ Date________________

Principal/Designee Signature__________________________________________ Date________________

Candidate Signature_________________________________________________ Date________________

The completed log of mentoring hours must be submitted to Murray State University by the teacher candidate. The log may be emailed to nlovett@murraystate.edu or mailed to:

Dr. Nancy Lovett
Murray State University
Regional Training Center
113 Wells Hall
Murray, KY 42071