

Administrative Memo

Date: September 2, 2020
To: School Administrators
From: Blaine Henningsen, assistant commissioner, Office of College and Career Readiness
Subject: CCR-20-003 Missouri Certified Teacher Externship

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), pursuant to [Section 168.025, RSMo](#), has established the Missouri Certified Teacher Externship. An externship is a professional learning opportunity that allows educators to gain practical experience at a Missouri business through observation and interaction with employers and employees, allowing educators to connect their classroom to the workplace. Externships allow teachers to spend time in a workplace to learn, through direct experience, about trends, skill requirements and opportunities in industries related to their subject. This knowledge will undoubtedly enrich and strengthen their teaching and bring added relevance to student learning.

DESE has posted the requirements for the Missouri Certified Teacher Externship [here](#). Satisfactory completion of the requirements can be considered the equivalent of the completion of credit hours in graduate-level courses for purposes of salary schedules.

Teacher externships may be difficult to implement during the COVID-19 pandemic, but educators are encouraged to explore innovative ways to gain this valuable experience (i.e. virtually).

If you have specific questions about teacher externships, please contact Steve Bryant, Career Pathways manager, at steve.bryant@dese.mo.gov or 573-526-4987.