**Professional Development Activities (PDAs) Revised 2015**

PDAs are opportunities for candidates to identify resources and engage in activities that develop and expand knowledge and skills through community service, service learning, conferences, lecture series, workshops, and training. **A teacher candidate is expected to “actively seek out opportunities to grow professionally.”** This is evident as candidates:

* identify resources in order to develop professional expertise (e.g., .national/state standards, national/state professional organizations, educational journals, Internet sites, etc.),
* engage in professional development activities that expand existing understanding of teaching and learning concepts (e.g., observing teachers, planning for self-evaluation, using the Internet to locate instructional activities, joining pre-service teacher organizations, locating instructional techniques in educational journals, etc.), and
* **participate in professional development activities to enhance professional skills (e.g., attending meetings of professional organizations, attending conferences and lecture series, attending workshops and training sessions, serving on committees, service learning, etc.).**

Professional Development Activities are currently defined in three (3) distinct categories that you will be using:

1. **Community Service** includes service learning activities, serving on committees, volunteering to assist civic/community organizations, etc.
2. **Conference** includes mini-conferences, meetings for professional organizations, lecture series, Mid-Semester Student Teaching Seminar, etc.
3. **Workshops/Training** generally includes information sessions that can be used by the candidate and is more focused on a specific skill or topic.

**\*\*Publications and Presentations** are NOT to be used by candidates for the purpose of documenting PDAs.

PDAs to be entered in PASS-PORT include **attendance and/or participation** in community service, service learning activities, conferences, lecture series, professional meetings, workshops, and training sessions sponsored by national, regional, state, and local organizations, as well as activities sponsored by the university, college, departments and/or required by course instructors. Many examples of PDAs are listed below:

Community Service/Service Learning

* School board meeting course assignment
* Serving on committees
* Sponsors of civic organizations
* Joining and attending meetings of pre-service teacher organizations
* Instructor approved course assignments

Conference/lecture series

* Mid-Semester Student Teaching Seminar –
* Instructor approved course assignments

Workshops/Training

* Dyslexia Workshop
* Annual Mock IEP
* Mock Interview Night – 1hour
* PASS-PORT sessions as approved by facilitator
* Instructor approved course assignments

As candidates complete a professional development activity, they are required to enter it into PASS-PORT.  They should not wait until the end of the semester.  PDAs should be entered at the time of an activity.

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|  | Introductory/Emerging Levels | Developing/Proficiency Levels | Competency/Capstone Levels | Cumulative Total |
| Required PDA Hours | 5\* | 10\* | 10\* | 25\* |