

# Graduate Professional Dispositions & Requirements

Building upon the professional standards for undergraduate candidates, this graduate-level disposition form elevates expectations to focus on **advanced leadership, research integration, and systemic impact**. Graduate students are expected not only to follow policies but to serve as exemplars and mentors within the educational community.

## 1. Advanced Responsibility and Accountability

This disposition addresses the candidate's ability to model ethical leadership and maintain the highest standards of academic and professional integrity.

- **Ethical Leadership:** Adheres to the UT Tyler Honesty Code, the Code of Ethics, and Standard Practices for Texas Educators as a model for the profession.
- **Academic Integrity & AI:** Demonstrates advanced academic honesty in research and practice, adhering strictly to the ethical use of AI as defined by university policy and graduate-level syllabi.
- **Professional Reliability:** Maintains an appropriate digital footprint and serves as a dependable, prepared leader in both academic and professional settings.
- **Confidentiality & Data Protection:** Rigorously maintains the confidentiality of student, family, and staff information, understanding the legal implications of data privacy in advanced practice.
- **Responsiveness:** Proactively seeks and applies constructive feedback to refine professional practice and leadership skills.

## 2. Excellence in Professional Communication and Collaboration

This disposition addresses the candidate's ability to navigate complex interpersonal dynamics and lead collaborative efforts to improve educational outcomes.

- **Collaborative Leadership:** Leads and contributes meaningfully to group efforts, fostering an environment where multiple perspectives are valued and respected.
- **Advanced Communication:** Employs sophisticated oral and written communication that is objective, respectful, and tailored for varied professional audiences.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Demonstrates maturity and sound judgment by using effective conflict-resolution strategies and maintaining emotional control in challenging situations.
- **Relational Integrity:** Develops and sustains professional workplace relationships characterized by integrity and mutual respect.

## 3. Commitment to Specialized Practice and Continuous Improvement

This disposition addresses the candidate's engagement in high-level instructional practices, research-informed decision-making, and professional reflection.

- **Evidence-Based Practice:** Applies instructional strategies and leadership decisions aligned with established best practices and current educational research.

- **Mastery of Content & Standards:** Demonstrates an expert-level understanding of subject-area knowledge and state curriculum standards, such as TEKS and ELPS.
- **Advocacy for Learning:** Maintains high expectations for all students and designs structured environments that support varied academic and developmental needs.
- **Reflective Scholarship:** Regularly engages in reflection to identify areas for instructional growth and pursues professional learning to address systemic educational challenges.

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## **Evaluation and Intervention**

- **Regular Review:** These dispositions are evaluated by graduate faculty.
- **Professional Improvement Plan (PIP):** Failure to meet these advanced standards or a display of unprofessional behavior may result in a Graduate Instructional Notification & PIP Initiation form to remain in the graduate program.