

CO-TEACHING TRANSITION WITH RESIDENTS/STUDENT TEACHERS

Providing a quality clinical experience for residents/student teachers or interns often involves modeling best practices then performing those practices collaboratively to ensure the resident/student teacher or intern not only knows and observes the best practice but also demonstrates it with an experienced mentor.

Mentor/cooperating teachers are encouraged to act as co-teachers with the candidates they mentor. With co-teaching, early in the term, the candidate may serve as an assistant to and plan and present portions of lessons while the mentor/cooperating teacher remains primarily responsible for teaching. The candidate may also plan instruction and work with individuals or small groups of students who need special or additional help. For certain activities, the class may be divided between the candidate and mentor/cooperating teacher to reduce teacher-pupil ratio.

As the semester progresses, the candidate will be given more of the planning and teaching responsibilities. Near the end of the semester, the candidate should be given primary responsibility for planning and instruction.