

Criteria and Next Steps for the Continuation of a WRS Group Mastery Practicum Course During COVID-19 School Closures

In order to continue with the Wilson Reading System® Group Mastery Practicum course requirements during this period of Spring 2020 COVID-19 related school closures, *the following criteria must be met:*

Criteria
Lesson & Observations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The teacher must have completed <i>at least one observation</i> this school year prior to school closures.• The teacher must have completed <i>a minimum of 30 full WRS Lessons</i> at this point (either in-person or in-person and online).• The teacher must be able to conduct online/remote lessons going forward.• The teacher must be able to continue to adhere to <i>the minimum amount of two full WRS Lessons conducted per week</i> with the approved small group of students: two 90-minute sessions or four 45-minute sessions per week.
Practicum Group <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The <i>approved practicum students</i> must be available to attend online lessons on a regular basis.• No additional students may be added to the Wilson Language Training approved practicum small group.• The teacher must obtain any necessary parent/guardian permission for students to attend these online lessons that may be required by the school or school district. No additional permission or release forms need be submitted to Wilson.
Online Lessons <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The teacher must have established a way to connect with all small-group practicum students at the <i>same scheduled time</i> with an appropriate online meeting software that allows the successful delivery of WRS small-group lessons. The online meeting software must allow the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The teacher must be able to see and hear all students throughout the whole lesson.○ Lessons must be able to be video recorded for the required observation submissions.○ The video-recorded lessons must then be able to be uploaded to Wilson Academy as required.

Online Lessons (continued)

- All practicum students must have access to the necessary technology to fully participate in WRS small-group online lessons:
 - laptop computer, desktop computer, or tablet with audio input and output
 - web camera
 - internet access

Program Materials

- The teacher must have access to all necessary WRS instructional materials to plan and conduct lessons: WRS Instructor Manual, Student Readers, Dictation Book, Letter-Sound Cards, Word Element & Syllable Cards, and High Frequency Cards. Alternatives to card manipulatives such as index cards, dry erase syllable and suffix frames, Just Words InterActivities, or other appropriate and non-program specific *electronic cards* may be used during this time period.
- All students must minimally have access to the following materials:
 - WRS Magnetic Journal with Tiles (or students may be sent WRS Manipulative Resource Template [WRS Manipulative Resource Template](#) that has been posted to Wilson's website)
 - Paper and pen or pencil for dictation/spelling work

Note: At this time, Wilson Language Training is unable to review any inquiries regarding exceptions to the above stated criteria.

The following information contains **important details to know** and **next steps** that must be adhered to so that Wilson Language Training can fully support your efforts to finalize your course requirements:

Next Steps & Details Going Forward
<p>General Practicum Course Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All previously conducted in-person lessons and submitted observations <i>count</i> towards course completion requirements. • Successful completion of the WRS Group Mastery Practicum still requires that <i>a minimum total of 50 full WRS Lessons</i> be delivered. Also, <i>a minimum of 3 observations must be completed and the final observation form must reflect passing scores.</i> • Teachers have a total of 15 months from Wilson Language Training to finalize all course requirements, if needed. However, finalizing requirements by the end of this current school year is the goal in most situations. • The required readings and associated Required Reading Exam <i>must be completed.</i>
<p>Instructional Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The requirement for the teacher to administer the End-of-Step Assessment Lessons <i>is being waived during this time period.</i> However, any End-of-Step Assessment lesson documentation listed on the Video Submission Checklists for Observations #2 and #3 that can be submitted should be included with the other required observation and final paperwork. This would be the case for any End-of-Step Assessment lessons that occurred prior to school closures. • Only full WRS Lessons can be counted towards the 50 required lessons. Full WRS Lessons are comprised of all three Lesson Blocks (Parts 1-10).
<p>Remaining Observations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teacher must upload a recorded online lesson for any observation they are moving forward with during this time period. <i>Live observations of small-group online lessons are not permitted.</i> • All lesson parts outlined on the WRS Group Mastery Practicum Video Submission Checklists for Observations and the WRS Group Mastery Practicum Form will need to be demonstrated in a way that the Wilson Trainer can assess proficiency. • The requirements listed on the appropriate Video Submission Checklist for Observation must be followed, except for the submission of the End-of-Step Assessment lesson documentation which is not required during this time period. • If the teacher is planning on submitting two observations (Observation #2 and Observation #3) prior to the end of this school year in order to finish their practicum course, <i>the Observation #2 video should be uploaded to Wilson Academy no later than Monday, April 20, 2020.</i> All accompanying observation paperwork should be sent to the assigned trainer by this same date.

Remaining Observations (continued)

- This April deadline is being provided so that Wilson Trainers have enough time to provide feedback (generally 2-3 weeks from the observation video and paperwork submission) to teachers who will then need to quickly put into practice lesson and program implementation improvements in order to prepare for Observation #3. (If a teacher only has one remaining observation to complete – Observation #3 – an alternative due date can be discussed with the assigned trainer, but it must be prior to the end of the school year.)
- Upon receipt and review of the Observation #2 video and paperwork, trainers will inform any teacher about alternative next steps if they are not in a position to submit the Observation #3 video and paperwork with a quick turnaround due to major lesson and/or program implementation concerns. This alternative next step would involve waiting until school resumes to submit Observation #3 video and paperwork, likely during the 2020-2021 school year.* This way, the teacher will have the time to practice lesson procedures and proper program implementation in preparation for Observation #3.
- Likewise, if it is not possible for a teacher to proceed with the submission of Observation #3 during the current school year for other reasons, the trainer should be informed and a plan to complete within the allotted enrollment period should be outlined.* If needed, teachers can contact Wilson Language Training 800.899.8454 thirty days prior to their course end date to inquire about an extension. Course end dates can be found on the My Transcript page in Wilson Academy.
- In most situations, the teacher will be able to proceed with the Observation #3 submission even with a short period of time between observations. *The Observation #3 video and paperwork need to be submitted prior to the end of the current school year.*
- As it will not be possible in most situations to provide the Observation #3 feedback while students are still attending classes, any procedures that are still in need of ‘passing scores’ can be demonstrated by submission of a video of a partial lesson when school resumes.

* For the completion of requirements that may need to occur under these circumstances during the 2020-2021 school year, the teacher can work with a small group of WRS students at Substep 3.1 or higher. This does not have to be the teacher’s original small group and it does not need to be an approved practicum group.

Student Posttesting & Practicum Final Report and Paperwork

- If any component of the final/end-of-practicum posttesting of students (WADE and/or normed reading assessment) is not possible, teachers should let their trainer know and then fill out as much as they can on the Final Report form. In situations when posttesting scores are not available, teachers must provide an expanded “narrative assessment” on each student, attaching additional pages to the form. The expanded narrative assessment on each student should include a thoughtful reflection about each student’s strengths, weaknesses, and pertinent academic achievement. It should also include the teacher’s recommendations for future instruction, continued use and practice of learned strategies, and necessary academic support.
- Final practicum paperwork must be submitted to trainers as outlined in the WRS Group Mastery Practicum Packet, including copies of the last five lesson plans, Required Reading Exam, etc. The EOSA Class Summary Chart may be submitted with any information captured prior to school closures. Again, posttesting scores and paperwork associated with the administration of the WIST and WADE that are not available may be excluded during this time period; however, an expanded narrative assessment is required.