

Continuing Wilson Reading System® Practicum Courses

Guidelines for Participants Who Were Unable to Continue with Practicum Lessons During the Spring 2020 Covid-19 School Closures

This document is in reference to the following Wilson Reading System Practicum Courses:

- WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum
- WRS Steps 7-12 Practicum
- WRS Group Mastery Practicum

The following general guidelines relate to all three practicum courses for participants who were not able to continue with their course requirements (lessons and observations) due to COVID-19 school closures during the time period of March-June, 2020.

General Guidelines for WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum, WRS Steps 7-12 Practicum, and WRS Group Mastery Practicum

All Wilson Reading System Practicum participants who began their course at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year will now have until **December 31, 2020** to finish their requirements. If significant progress has been made, but additional time is still required beyond this date to complete all the practicum course requirements, teachers may contact Wilson Language Training (or the Wilson Accredited Partner) to inquire about an extension 30 days prior to the course end date.

- All previously conducted lessons and observations count toward completion of course requirements.
- Remaining lessons and observations should be conducted according to training guidelines.
- Participants should continue to stay in touch with their assigned Wilson Trainer about instructional progress, scheduling/timing of observations, and all practicum-related questions.
- In some cases, participants may need to be re-assigned to a different trainer so that Wilson Language Training can continue to support a participant's course completion efforts according to Wilson's high-quality standards of professional learning. Please know that Wilson Language Training will do its best to keep participants assigned to their original trainer whenever possible.

Additionally, all Wilson Reading System (WRS) Practicum participants who were not able to continue with their course requirements (lessons and observations) due to COVID-19 school closures have the following **3 Options** available to them to work towards finalizing their requirements:

Option 1: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS AVAILABLE

- Lessons should resume when it is appropriate to do so.
- **WRS Steps 1-6** Practicum Observations may need to be conducted via video-recorded lesson submission and/or online appointment with trainer. If observations were already set to be completed via online appointments, that will continue to be the case moving forward.
- **WRS Group Mastery** and **WRS Steps 7-12** Practicum Observations must continue to be conducted via uploaded video-recorded lesson submission.
- All other practicum completion requirements must be met, including practicum student(s) post-testing and the submission of the Practicum Student Final Report.

Option 2: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS NOT AVAILABLE - Existing WRS Students ARE ACCESSIBLE

- The teacher may *replace* the practicum student or practicum small group with another **appropriate student or small group of students who are already receiving WRS instruction** – even if the student(s) have been working with another teacher up to this point.
- As these students **are already receiving WRS instruction**, the practicum student selection/pretesting process for the *replacement student or small group of students* is as follows:
 - The WIST and/or second normed reading assessment are optional. Scores can be obtained and submitted if the process for doing so will not significantly delay the resuming of practicum lessons.
 - The WADE (Wilson Assessment of Decoding and Encoding) should be administered for the purposes of ensuring mastery at the current placement in the program as well as for submission of scores to the assigned trainer. If the WADE was recently administered (i.e. prior to Step 1 or Step 7 instruction*), those scores can be submitted. However, the nonsense word reading and spelling (phonetically regular and high frequency words) sections should be re-administered so current scores and information can be submitted for review and practicum student approval.
 - A new pretesting form should be filled out and submitted so that official approval of the student(s) is documented. WADE scores and student spelling pages should be attached to the form at the time of submission.
- The *replacement student or small group of students* may be at a WRS Step other than the usual practicum starting point: Step 1 or 7. *
- Completed (signed) Practicum Student Release Forms for the *replacement student(s)* are required and must be submitted prior to the occurrence of any observations.
- Lessons should resume when the trainer provides approval for the selection of the *replacement student(s)*.
- All other practicum completion requirements must be met, including practicum student(s) post-testing and the submission of the Practicum Student Final Report.

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(continued) Option 2: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS NOT AVAILABLE - Existing WRS Students ARE ACCESSIBLE

*** WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum**

- A WRS **Steps 1-6** Practicum *replacement student* who is currently in Step 2, 3, or 4 may be selected and approved for the completion of the course requirements (remaining lessons and observations).
- WRS **Steps 1-6** Practicum Observations may need to be conducted via video-recorded lesson submission and/or online appointment with trainer. If observations were already set to be completed via online appointments, that will continue to be the case moving forward.

*** WRS Group Mastery Practicum**

- A WRS **Group Mastery** Practicum *replacement small group of students* who are currently in Step 2 or 3 may be selected and approved for the completion of the course requirements (remaining lessons and observations).

*** WRS Steps 7-12 Practicum**

- A WRS **Steps 7-12** Practicum *replacement student* who is currently in Step 8, 9, or 10 may be selected and approved for the completion of the course requirements (remaining lessons and observations).
- WRS **Steps 7-12** and WRS **Group Mastery** Practicum Observations must continue to be conducted via uploaded video-recorded lesson submission.

Option 3: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS NOT AVAILABLE - Existing WRS Students are NOT ACCESSIBLE

- If there are **no students already receiving WRS instruction available**, the teacher may select a *replacement* or *alternate student substitute* according to the guidelines provided below and depending on their original progress in the specific practicum course. *
- Completed (signed) Practicum Student Release Forms for all *replacement students* or *alternate student substitutes* are required and must be submitted prior to the occurrence of any observations. If the selected students are over the age 18, the form can be signed by themselves.
- Lessons should resume when the trainer provides the necessary approval for the *replacement practicum student(s)* or the *alternate student substitute(s)*.
- WRS **Steps 1-6** Practicum Observations may need to be conducted via video-recorded lesson submission and/or online appointment with trainer. If observations were already set to be completed via online appointments, that will continue to be the case moving forward.
- WRS **Group Mastery** and WRS **Steps 7-12** Practicum Observations must continue to be conducted via uploaded video-recorded lesson submission.

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(continued) **Option 3: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS NOT AVAILABLE - Existing WRS Students are NOT ACCESSIBLE**

*** WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum**

- A. WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum participants who **completed less than 50 lessons and/or less than 4 observations** with their original practicum student must select a *replacement student*.**
- The *replacement student* must be available for all the remaining required lessons and observations. For this time period, the replacement student can be a student with mild reading and spelling difficulties so they can pace quickly through the beginning steps of the program.
 - The practicum student pretesting, approval, and post-testing process should be adhered to as much as possible. However, if providing the WIST and/or second normed reading assessment scores will significantly delay the resuming of practicum lessons, the participant may submit all the results from the administration of the WADE instead.
 - A new pretesting form should be filled out and submitted so that official approval of the student(s) is documented. WADE scores and student spelling pages should be attached to the form at the time of submission.
- B. WRS Steps 1-6 Practicum participants who **completed at least 50 lessons and/or at least 4 observations** with their original practicum student may conduct the remaining required lessons and observation with an *alternate student substitute*.**
- This *alternate student substitute* may be another student or even an adult who can successfully function in the role of a WRS student so that the small number of remaining lessons and final observation can be completed and documented.
 - There is no required pretesting needed for the *alternate student substitute* selection, however the assigned Wilson Trainer must be informed about the selection and provide approval to proceed.
 - The practicum student post-testing and the submission of the Practicum Student Final Report will be substituted by submitting copies of the following items from the last 10 lessons: Lesson Plans, Part 8 Student Dictation Pages, and Wordlist Charts.

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(continued) **Option 3: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS NOT AVAILABLE - Existing WRS Students are NOT ACCESSIBLE**

*** WRS Group Mastery Practicum**

- A. WRS Group Mastery Practicum** participants who **completed less than 35 lessons and/or less than 2 observations** with their original small group of practicum students must select a *replacement small group*.
- The *replacement small group* of students must be available for the remaining required lessons and observations.
 - The practicum students can be students with mild reading and spelling difficulties so they can pace more quickly through the beginning steps of the program.
 - The practicum student pretesting, approval, and post-testing process should be adhered to as much as possible. However, if providing the normed reading assessment scores will significantly delay the resuming of practicum lessons, the teacher may be excused from submitting that information. The administration of the WADE is still required.
 - A new pretesting form should be filled out and submitted so that official approval of the student(s) is documented.
- B. WRS Group Mastery Practicum** participants who **completed at least 35 lessons and/or at least 2 observations** with their original small group of practicum students may conduct the remaining required lessons and observation with a small group of *alternate student substitutes*.
- This small group of *alternate student substitute* may be students or even adults who can successfully function in the role of a WRS student so that the small number of remaining lessons and final observation can be completed and documented.
 - There is no required pretesting for the selection and approval of the *alternate student substitute*, however the assigned Wilson Trainer must be informed about the selection.
 - The practicum student post-testing and the submission of the Practicum Students Final Report will be substituted by submitting copies of the following items from the last 10 lessons: Lesson Plans, Part 8 Student Dictation Pages, and Wordlist Charts.

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(continued) Option 3: Original Practicum Student or Practicum Small Group IS NOT AVAILABLE- Existing WRS Students are NOT ACCESSIBLE

*** WRS Steps 7-12 Practicum**

- A.** WRS **Steps 7-12** Practicum participants who **completed less than 35 lessons and/or less than 2 observations** with their original practicum student must select a *replacement student*.
- The *replacement student* must be available for all the remaining required lessons and observations. For this time period, the replacement student can be a student with mild reading and spelling difficulties so they can pace more quickly through WRS Steps 7 and 8.
 - The practicum student pretesting, approval, and post-testing process should be adhered to as much as possible. However, if providing the normed reading assessment scores will significantly delay the resuming of practicum lessons, the teacher may be excused from submitting that information. The administration of the WADE is still required.
 - A new pretesting form should be filled out and submitted so that official approval of the student(s) is documented.
- B.** WRS **Steps 7-12** Practicum participants who **completed at least 35 lessons and/or at least 2 observations** with their original practicum student may conduct the remaining required lessons and observation with an *alternate student substitute*.
- This *alternate student substitute* may be another student or even an adult who can successfully function in the
 - role of a WRS student so that the small number of remaining lessons and final observation can be completed and documented.
 - There is no required pretesting needed for the *alternate student substitute* selection, however the assigned Wilson Trainer must be informed about the selection and provide approval to proceed.
 - The practicum student post-testing and the submission of the Practicum Student Final Report will be substituted by submitting copies of the following items from the last 10 lessons: Lesson Plans, Part 8 Student Dictation Pages, and Wordlist Charts.