

# CLASS PDS

## Internship Fellowship Program

### Background Information:

The CLASS PDS program is intended for both part-time non-traditional and full-time students who have a strong interest in teaching at the K – 8 level. Because the majority of students in our program are non-traditional and of low income, they are likely to fill many responsibilities in their lives, including employment on which they, and in most cases their family, are financially dependent. This makes the full-time, full year internship during their final two semesters the final challenge as they strive to meet both their educational and financial commitments. However, the research is quite conclusive regarding the efficacy of full-time, full year internships during pre-service programs on both the effectiveness in preparing beginning new teachers for the classroom and in keeping these teachers in the profession for a longer period of time once they get started.

Our solution to this challenge has been to reciprocate the commitment of our students by establishing an endowed fellowship fund to assist financially deserving students to offset the personal financial hardships of the full-year, full time resident internship requirement for students demonstrating financial need; thus, retaining the pool of talented and dedicated Maine teacher candidates who want to build a better future by becoming teachers in Lewiston-Auburn and schools in Maine. The endowed fellowship reached its \$150,000 target during the 2003 – 2004 academic year so we can now begin to use the endowment's interest to fund the internship fellowships starting in January 2004.

### Mission Statement:

The student must demonstrate excellence in teaching-learning, responsible citizenship, ethics, and “making a difference” in the classroom as he or she becomes a role model, change agent and teacher-leader for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This fellowship enables a student to continue his or her education in innovative teaching and making a significant impact on the life of Maine residents.

### Fellowship Amounts and Numbers:

A fellowship between \$3,000 and \$4,000 (depending on available interest money) will be competitively awarded each April to three or four (depending on available interest money) qualifying CLASS PDS students to help support him or her during the final semester of the internship year. Fellowship recipients have both the fall and spring semesters of the same academic year to complete residency. If residency is not completed in this time frame, recipients will lose the fellowship award and have to reapply for it the next year. *Note: The available pool of money in any given year cannot be subdivided among a larger number of students.*

### Eligibility Requirements:

- Matriculated student in the CLASS PDS program
- Successful completion of Candidacy Review (without any "conditions" pending)
- Minimum of 3.00 G.P.A in his/her USM courses
- Successful completion of each Praxis exam
- Completion of application materials by the due date

Application Materials:

I Statement of need (25 words)

*The student should briefly state his or her financial need with regards to the internship year.*

II Essay (up to 3 pages double spaced, 12 pt. Times-Roman font, 1" margins)

*The student should include in his/her discussion:*

- a) His or her most meaningful teaching experience;*
- b) How he or she plans to be an effective and innovative teacher-leader for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century;*
- c) Internship goals*

III Scholarship

- a) Transcript*
- b) Praxis Score sheet*

IV References (to be filled out on the attached form)

- a) Faculty or Site Coordinator (1)*
- b) Mentor Teacher (1)*

*Should you leave the program at any time for any reason during this internship year, you **must** return the fellowship money to the university.*

# CLASS PDS Reference Form

**Applicant: Please return to the following address:**  
 University of Southern Maine  
 Lewiston-Auburn College  
 Collaborative Learning and School Success Professional Development Program  
 51 Westminster Street  
 Lewiston, ME 04240

**THIS SECTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First M.I.

Scholarship/Fellowship for which application is made: \_\_\_\_\_

**OPTIONAL WAIVER OF RIGHT ACCESS**

I, the undersigned, understand that the information provided in this letter from \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 will be used by the University of Southern Maine in deciding upon the award of a scholarship, fellowship, or assistantship. I hereby waive any and all rights of access to this letter I might have under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, or other related laws, regulations, or policies.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**Person making the reference should complete both sections A and B.**

A. Please rate the applicant on the chart below:

	Highest	Next Highest	Middle	Lowest	Unable to Evaluate
Ability to Analyze a Problem					
Capacity to Work with Others					
Communication Skills: Oral					
Communication Skills: Written					
Creativity and Imagination					
Maturity					
Motivation					
Potential for Advancement					
Aptitude					
Self Confidence					

B. The Collaborative Learning And School Success Scholarship Committee would appreciate a candid statement from you concerning the applicant. Please indicate in what capacity and for how long you have known the applicant. Give your assessment of his or her ability to succeed academically and in becoming a teacher leader and evaluate his or her strengths and weaknesses insofar as these might affect such study. Please attach your statement or provide it on the back of this form.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Reference Date Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Position Institution

**Please mail to address above.**