

## Measure 2. Student Teachers' Dispositions Instrument Rater Agreement

Teacher candidates' dispositions are regularly observed and evaluated by college faculty, college supervisors, and clinical instructors. Each of the 38 items on the evaluation instrument are aligned with InTASC Standards and reflect the dispositions needed to teach effectively. Rater agreement is a way to establish how closely the clinical instructors' and college supervisors' evaluations of teacher candidates align. When candidates are evaluated, the clinical instructor and college supervisor each independently code an observation using the instrument. Agreement between these two raters' codes is evidence that the coding scheme is objective and the instrument reliable. Generally, we want our data to be objective, so it is important to establish high inter-rater reliability. When calculating the agreement data below, we wanted to ascertain if raters were within one point of one another; that is, if the clinical instructor rated a candidate as 7 on a particular item and the college supervisor rated the student as 8, we were satisfied with this level of agreement, as both ratings indicate proficient performance. In addition to looking at agreement, we examined the overall mean and subcategory means disaggregated by rater role. In short, we wanted to see if either clinical instructors or college supervisors were noticeably "harder" evaluators.

Overall, rater agreement was high, with the combined items and all subcategories except "participates in professional development opportunities" above 88%. The lower percent agreement for "participates in professional development opportunities" (75.86%) indicates an area in need of monitoring. Clarification and communication between clinical instructors and college supervisors regarding professional development opportunities available to candidates in any given placement might be needed, and our training can include more specific discussion of the professional development opportunities available to candidates (opportunities which may not be the same as those available to the clinical instructors). In the combined items and all subcategories, clinical instructor and college supervisor means were within .200 of one another, and neither rater type had consistently higher or lower means than the other.

*Table 1. Rater agreement and means by rater role for dispositions combined items and subcategories*

Categories	Percent Agreement	Means	
		CI	CS
All items	91.53%	7.559	7.538
Demonstrates sensitivity to students	89.21%	7.410	7.432
Participates with others in a collaborative manner	91.75%	7.711	7.557
Treats others with respect	98.32%	7.756	7.681
Demonstrates lifelong learning	88.54%	7.573	7.531
Participates in professional development opportunities	75.86%	7.676	7.730
Demonstrates effective decision-making skills	88.98%	7.407	7.466
Works effectively with diverse learners	95.73%	7.453	7.487
Displays excitement about teaching	100%	7.900	7.750