The Professional Development and Appraisal System (PDAS) is the State's approved instrument for appraising its teachers and identifying areas in need of improvement is used by the Unit to assess teacher candidates’ performance during student teaching. The PDAS was developed under a legislative mandate to establish a fair and practical appraisal process that acknowledges and reinforces good teaching practices and quality professional development. The PDAS includes 51 criteria within eight domains reflecting the Proficiencies for Learner-centered Instruction adopted by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC).

The eight domains include Active, Successful Student Participation in the Learning Process; Learner-centered Instruction; Evaluation and feedback on Student Progress; Management of Student Discipline, Instructional Strategies, Time/Materials; Professional Communication; Professional Development; Compliance with Policies, Operating Procedures and Requirements; and Improvement of All Students' Academic Performance.

The overall mean score of the candidates by program for fall semester 2005 though fall semester 2007 shows that over 95% of the scores lie above 3.5, on a 4.00 scale. These scores suggest that our candidates’ pedagogical performance in the classroom is in the Target area.