

EDUC3186/3196 Mid-Year, 2026

Placement Timeline and Process for Students

Course: EDUC3186/EDUC3196 Mid-Year Session – Quality Teaching, Equity and Diversity

Placement Dates: 20 July 2026 to 14 August 2026

Duration: 20 days (4 weeks)

This placement offers students a unique opportunity to teach in a rural or diverse setting, gaining professional experience in communities beyond the Newcastle and Central Coast region. Students who have met all placement pre-requisites by the specified due date have three (3) placement options available to them.

Below is an overview of the **Placement Options**, along with the **Timeline and Process**. Students must carefully review this information, as it contains critical due dates and compliance requirements that must be met to be eligible for any of the placement options.

Placement Options

Option 1 - Self-Selection

Students have flexibility and control to choose their placement location by self-selecting their allocation from the *Rural and Diverse Placement Offers* provided to UON from schools across various regions in NSW. Details available within this document [here](#).

Key Advantages:

- Freedom to choose your ideal region based on interests and travel preferences.
- Build networks in NSW schools beyond Newcastle and Central Coast.
- Experience regional communities and diverse classrooms.

Option 2 - Partially Funded Rural Placement (Department of Education)

Looking for financial support and an exclusive rural teaching experience? Students will be able to apply for a partially funded rural placement through the Department of Education. More information will be distributed to students in late February 2026.

Key Advantages:

- Receive financial assistance to help cover travel and accommodation costs.
- Gain experience in high-demand rural schools, which can boost your employability.
- Make a real impact in communities where teachers are most needed.

Option 3 – International Placement

Ready to take your professional experience overseas? Students interested in completing their placement internationally are invited to apply for one of the exciting international opportunities. Full details are available in the *International Application Process and Timeline* available on your **SONIA Home** page, under the **Documents** section, within the **International** dropdown menu.

International Placement Dates: 9 November 2026 to 4 December 2026

Applications close: 13 March 2026

Key Advantages:

- Gain international teaching experience that stands out on your resume;
- Immerse yourself in a new culture and broaden your global perspective;
- Grouped placement means peer support as you complete your placement with friends;
- An academic travels with you to support your placement for grouped placements; and
- Build professional networks beyond Australia.

Important Information: If your international placement application is **unsuccessful**, please review and complete the requirements outlined in the timeline and process below. Your Australian placement will be scheduled for 20 July 2026 to 14 August 2026, and you will need to ensure you are fully prepared for self-selection.

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Timeline and Process

Due Date	Student Action Required
Enrolments due by 27 April 2026	Students to enrol in this placement course by the due date.
Placement pre-requisites due by 1 May 2026	<p>To be eligible for any of the three placement options, students must complete the following three sets of placement pre-requisites by the due date:</p> <p>1. DoE mandatory compliance: Students to upload correct documents (per the instructions on the DoE Website) to their SONIA ‘Checks’ tab: Prior to upload please check the examples (available in the Checks Guide) to ensure that what you are uploading is correct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working With Children Check (WWCC) • NSW Department of Education (DoE) Pre-service Teacher Registration Form • NSW DoE MyPL Training Modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Child Protection Awareness Induction ○ Anti-Racism Policy ○ Aboriginal Cultural Education ○ Code of Ethics and Conduct • ASCIA Anaphylaxis e-training for Australasian Schools <p>2. Placement requirements: Students to update their SONIA ‘My Details’ tab with (instructions available in the Checks Guide):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First and Additional Teaching Areas (EDUC3196 students only) • Conflicts of Interest sites • Public transport reliance and/or objections to faith-based site placements <p>3. Home address: Students to ensure their current residential address in MyHUB is correct.</p>
Reasonable Adjustment Plans to be lodged with Course Coordinator by 8 May 2026	<p>Students registered with Accessibility for a Reasonable Adjustment Plan (RAP) must notify the Course Coordinator (CC) by the due date. RAPs should outline any specific adjustments required that fall outside the standard placement process.</p> <p>The CC will inform the Professional Experience Unit (PEU) of the student’s required placement adjustments. To protect student privacy, the reasons for these adjustments will not be shared with the PEU or sites. Once a placement is confirmed, students may discuss the details directly with the site.</p>
Adverse Circumstances applications due by 8 May 2026	<p>Students who believe they have circumstances that adversely affect them from being allocated a placement in the standard process must submit an Adverse Circumstances (AC) application via the University’s online portal by the due date.</p> <p>Applications are reviewed by the Course Coordinator (CC). If approved, the CC will inform the Professional Experience Unit (PEU) of your requirements for consideration during placement allocation. Please note, the PEU do not have access to or approve AC applications. If you are unsure if your situation makes you eligible for AC application please review the acceptable reasons here. If you have further questions, please discuss these with your CC.</p>

Placement Timeline and Process for Students

<p>Option 1 – Self-Selection</p> <p>Review Placement Offers from 15 May 2026 to 20 May 2026</p> <p>Self-Select Your Placement from 20 May 2026 to 22 May 2026</p>	<p>Students must complete the placement pre-requisites before they will be granted access to view and self-select a placement in SONIA. Please review the timeframes and guidance below.</p> <p>Step 1: Review Placement Offers The <i>Rural and Diverse Placement Offers</i> provided to UON from schools across NSW will be available in SONIA for students to review during:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, 15 May 2026 at 4:00 PM to Wednesday, 20 May 2026 at 8:59 AM. <p>Students should review the list carefully and note multiple preferred options. Self-selection is first-come, first-served, so you may not secure your top choice.</p> <p>Step 2: Self-Select Your Placement Students will then be able to select their placement from the available offers in SONIA during:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 20 May 2026 at 9:00 AM to Friday, 22 May 2026 at 9:00 AM. <p>Tip: Log in early to improve your chances of securing your preferred placement.</p> <p>Important: After the self-selection period has closed, the PEU will seek final confirmation from your chosen school. Do not book accommodation or contact the school until you have received an email notification from the PEU advising that your placement has been confirmed.</p> <p>Step-by-step instructions for navigating SONIA through the self-selection process will be distributed prior to these dates.</p> <p>If you are unable to proceed with your placement, please notify your Course Coordinator and email peu@newcastle.edu.au as soon as possible. Please include your full name, student number, course code and semester/trimester that your enquiry relates to in the subject line of any emails you send.</p>
<p>Allocations open for student viewing in SONIA on 19 June 2026 (date subject to change)</p>	<p>Allocations will be available in SONIA for students to review their placement details. Students must immediately contact their placement site's Coordinator to introduce themselves and arrange an orientation visit.</p> <p>As this placement involves travel away from home, an in-person orientation prior to the first day may not be possible. In this case, you may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange a phone or video meeting, or • Conduct the orientation on your first day of placement. <p>An email from the Professional Experience Unit will also be sent to all students with further instructions.</p>
<p>Students attend 20day (4 weeks) placement from 20 July 2026 to 14 August 2026</p>	<p>Students attend placement and ensure the below requirements are adhered to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If students are unable to attend placement due to illness, injury, personal or bereavement leave, or an emergency they must notify the school and follow the 'UON - Placement Leave Process – Absences' available under 'Documents' on their SONIA Home page. • Discuss their Final Report with their placement site by the final week of placement. • Ensure their Final Report is submitted and signed-off by all parties by the final day of placement.