Kera Beth Ackerman

Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education
229 Taylor Education Building
University of Kentucky
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Ph.D.	2017	University of Kentucky
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Special Education

Emphasis: Mild to Moderate Disabilities, Applied Behavior Analysis

Outside Area: Autism

Dissertation Advisor: Robert G. McKenzie, Ph.D.

M.S. 1999 University of Akron

Major: Special Education

B.S. 1995 University of Akron

2017

Special Education

Major: Severe Behavior Handicap

Autism Certification, University of Kentucky

CERTIFICATION

2017-2022 2002-2012	State of Kentucky certificate/ Learning and Behavioral Disorders P-12 National Board Certification/ Exceptional Needs Specialist
	PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
2017-current	Assistant Professor of Special Education, Department of Early Childhood, Special
	Education, and Counselor Education, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
2013-2017	Lecturer and Supervisor, Department of Early Childhood, Special Education, and Counselor Education, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
2006-2013	Instructor of Special Education, Department of Education, School of Arts and Sciences, Midway University, Midway, Kentucky
1995-2006	Special Education Teacher, Students with Learning and Behavior Disorders

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Refereed Journal Publications (selected)

*= invited

+ = includes student co-author

- Ackerman, K. B., Whitney, J. T., & Samudre, M. D. (2023). The effectiveness of a peer coaching intervention on co-teachers' use of high leverage practices. *Preventing School Failure: Alternative Education for Children and Youth. 67*(1), 27-38. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1045988X.2022.2070591
- 2022 Whitney, J. T. & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2022, online first). Effects of a digital fluency-based reading program for students with significant reading difficulties. *Journal of Special Education Technology*. https://doi.org/10.1177/01626434221093774
- 2022 Whitney, J. T., **Ackerman, K. B.**, Cooper, J., & Scott, T. M. (2022). Opportunities to respond for students with emotional behavioral disorders in inclusive classrooms. *Intervention in School and Clinic*. *57*(4), 243-250. https://doi.org/10.1177/10534512211024931
- +Horn, C. K., Ackerman, K. B., Hitch, E. (2022). Applying high leverage practices to increase active engagement and on-task behavior of students with intellectual disabilities during literacy activities. *Journal of Special Education Technology. 37*(3), 363-371. https://doi.org/10.1177/01626434211019395
- +Bray, L., Skubik-Peplaski, C., **Ackerman, K. B.** (2021). A systematic review of the effectiveness of interventions to improve handwriting and spelling in children with specific learning disabilities. *Journal of Occupational Therapy, Schools, & Early Intervention.* 14(4), 437-465. https://doi.org/10.1080/19411243.2021.1934227
- *Ackerman, K. B., & Horn, C. K. (2021). The positive implications of intentional feedback.

 Journal of Special Education Preparation. 1(1),16-20. https://doi.org/10.33043/JOSEP.1.1.16-24
- Ackerman, K. B., Spriggs, A.D., & Rhodes, A.L. (2021). Peer mediators' use of systematic prompting to elicit social communication skills in students with disabilities. *Communication Disorders Quarterly.* 43(1), 42-50. https://doi/org.10.1177/1525740120936999
- Ackerman, K. B. (2020). Quick Fix: Using inter-teaching to increase student engagement in online courses. *College Teaching*. *68*(4), 228-229. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/87567555.2020.1791035
- *Whitney, J. T. & **Ackerman, K.B.** (2020). Acknowledging student behavior: A review of methods promoting positive and constructive feedback. *Beyond Behavior*. *29*(2), 86-94. https://doi.org/10.1177/1074295620902474
- +Ackerman, K. B., Samudre, M., & Allday, R. A. (2020). Practical components for getting the most from a token economy. *TEACHING Exceptional Children*. *52*(4), 242-249. https://doi.org/10.1177/0040059919892022

- +Samudre, M., **Ackerman, K. B.**, & Allday, R. A. (2019). A systematic review of general educator training with functional behavior assessment. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*. *31*(1), 3-14. https://doi.org/10.1177/1044207319869938
- Ackerman, K. B., Whitney, J. T., & Lingo, A. S. (2018). Bringing high leverage practices to the bluegrass: A statewide collaborative effort. *Kentucky Teacher Education Journal*, 5(2). https://digitalcommons.murraystate.edu/ktej/vol5/iss2/2
- Ault, M. J., Bausch, M. E., & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2018). How to be an advocate for rural issues: Working with state and national legislators. *Rural Special Education Quarterly*, 37(2). 122-127. https://doi.org/10.1177/8756770517736018

Book Chapters (Peer-Reviewed)

*= invited

*Ackerman, K. B. (2022). Interventions and supports for students in general education kindergarten classrooms. In *Routledge Encyclopedia of Education*. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781138609877-REE183-1

GRANT ACTIVITIES

External Grant: Funded (National Competitive)

Preparing Urban and Rural Personnel as Leaders in Education (Project PURPLE)
 U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (CFDA 84.325D;
 H325D190030)

5 years: 2019-2024 (end date 10/31/2024); **\$2.3 million** (\$2,394,183)

PI team: Ault, M. J., Ackerman, K. B., & Courtade, G.

Role: Co-Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, directing and managing the grant activities

External Grant: Funded (State Competitive)

2022 Institutes of Higher Education Special Education Consortium

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A170032-21)

1 year: 2021-2022; **\$41,224**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, purchasing and disseminating materials to IHEs, preparing and running meetings

2021 Institutes of Higher Education Special Education Consortium

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A170032-20)

1 year: 2021-2022; **\$45,556**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, purchasing and disseminating materials to IHEs, preparing and running meetings

2020 Institutes of Higher Education Special Education Consortium

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A170032-19)

1 year: 2020-2021; **\$48,810**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, purchasing and disseminating materials to IHEs, preparing and running meetings

2019 Institutes of Higher Education Special Education Consortium

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A170032-18)

1 year: 2019-2020; **\$51,847**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, purchasing and disseminating materials to IHEs, preparing and running meetings

2018 Institutes of Higher Education Special Education Consortium

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A170032-17)

1 year: 2018-2019; **\$52,406**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, purchasing and disseminating materials to IHEs, preparing and running meetings

2017 Project Teacher Recruitment and Retention for Educational Excellence (TRREE)

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A160032-16)

1 year: 2017-2018; **\$49,950**

PI Team: Ackerman, K. B. & Proffitt, E.

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, preparing and running meetings

2016 Project Teacher Recruitment and Retention for Educational Excellence (TRREE)

Kentucky Department of Education (H027A150032-15)

1 year: 2016-2017; **\$99,897**

PI Team: Ackerman, K. B. & Proffitt, E.

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, directing professional development, preparing and running meetings

External Grant Competitive Subaward (National & State)

2022 Mini-Grant: Promoting Collaboration to Address Delivery of Instruction to Promote High Leverage Practices

U.S. Department of Education through Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform Center (H325A170003)

1 year: 2022-2023; **\$6,000**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for coordinating and implementing grant activities, reporting on progress of mini-grant activities at UK to the state leadership team

2022 KY22 KEEP: Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation

U.S. Department of Education through Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform Center (H325A170003)

1 year: 2022-2023; **\$45,386**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for managing the grant activities and sub-awards from this grant to various educator preparation programs throughout state

2018 Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation- University of Kentucky (KEEP-UK)

U.S. Department of Education through Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability, and Reform Center (H325A170003)

4 years: 2018-2022; **\$200,000**

Role: Grant manager and state lead; responsible for managing the funds in the state, running the monthly meetings, planning and running the annual summit, managing mini-grants

2016 Aspiring Special Educator Academy

Kentucky Department of Education subaward through Project Teacher Recruitment and Retention for Educational Excellence (TRREE; H027A150032-15)

1 year: 2016-2017; **\$10,000**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, coordinating field trips and trainings for high school students

2015 Aspiring Special Educator Academy

Kentucky Department of Education subaward through Project Teacher Recruitment and Retention for Educational Excellence (TRREE; H027A140032-14)

1 year: 2015-2016; **\$15,000**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, managing, and reporting on grant activities, coordinating field trips and trainings for high school students

Internal Grant Competitive: Funded

2023 Learning/Behavior Disorders Degree Innovation (L/BD-I)

College of Education Program Innovation and Improvement Grant, University of Kentucky 1 year: 2023-2024; \$27,245

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for developing the L/BD-I program objectives and ensure the programs are ready for approval

2020 Embedded Practice-based Opportunities using Mixed Reality Simulations

Research and Creative Activities Award, Office of Research, University of Kentucky

1 year: 2020-2021; **\$7,500**

Role: Principal Investigator; responsible for writing, submitting, directing research, managing and reporting on grant activities

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Conference Presentations

- Yozgatli-Gulum, M. & Ackerman, K. B. (2023, April). Serving all our students: Inclusive Education. Presentation on a survey conducted to investigate the extent to which inclusive practices are integrated into teacher education programs. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois.
- Horn, C., K., & Ackerman, K. B. (2023, March). Inclusive practices, are two stronger than one? Presentation on survey data on the differences of co-teaching practices (co-planning) in rural versus urban settings. American Council for Rural Special Education Annual Conference, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
- Ault, M. J., Courtade, G., **Ackerman, K. B.** (2021, November). *Preparing future faculty in an IHE partnership*. Presentation on Project PURPLE grant activities. Teacher Education Division Annual Conference, Fort Worth, Texas.
- Whitney, J. T., Ackerman, K. B., Noel, C., & Rhodes, A. (2021, November). Effects of role play versus mixed-reality simulations on pre-service teachers use of high leverage practices.
 Paper presentation on study conducted across institutions, IHE Special Education Consortium.
 Teacher Education Division Annual Conference, Fort Worth, Texas.
- 2021 Horn, C.K. & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2021, March). *Incorporating High Leverage Practices into Online Practice Opportunities*. Presentation on online clinical practices during the pandemic. American Council for Rural Special Education Annual Conference Annual Conference. Virtual.
- 2021 **Ackerman, K. B.** (2021, March). *Embedded practice-based opportunities using mixed reality Simulations*. Paper presentation from Research and Creative Activities Award funding. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference. Virtual.
- Ackerman, K.B., Ault, M. J., & Courtade, G. (2021, March). *Preparing urban and rural personnel as leaders in education: A collaborative effort between two institutions*. Presentation from Project PURPLE personnel preparation grant. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference. Virtual.
- 2020 **Ackerman, K. B.**, & Horn, C. (2020, November). *Practice based opportunities from a distance.*Presentation to state level organization on providing zoom instruction beyond modules. IHE Special Education Consortium Annual Meeting. Virtual.
- 2020 Horn, C. & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2020, September). *Effective and efficient high leverage practices*. Presentation on selecting high leverage practices to embed into coursework. Kentucky Association of Teacher Educators Annual Conference, Virtual.
- Ackerman, K. B., Whitney, J., & Samudre, M. (2020, February). Leveraging two: Co-teachers increase high leverage practice use through reciprocal peer coaching. Paper presented from research study focusing on embedding high leverage practices into in-service professional development. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference. Portland, Oregon.

- 2020 Samudre, M. & Ackerman, K. B. (2020, February). *Training pre-service general education teachers how to collect accurate antecedent-behavior-consequence data*. Paper presented from research study. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference. Portland, Oregon.
- 2019 **Ackerman, K. B.**, & Whitney, J. T. (2019, November). *Utilizing high leverage practices to engage students and acknowledge their success*. Presentation to in-service teachers, educational cooperative resource specialists, and Kentucky Department of Education members. Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2019 Brownell, M., **Ackerman, K. B.**, Lingo, A. S., Whitney, J. (2019, November). *Developing mutually beneficial clinical partnerships to promote inclusive teaching*. Presentation on local education administration partnerships for teacher educators. Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2019 Whitney, J., & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2019, November). *Teaching pre-service special education teachers high leverage practices to improve student outcomes in inclusive P-12 settings*. Presentation on embedding high leverage practices into coursework for teacher educators. Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division. New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2019 Scott, T., Cooper, J., Whitney, J., & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2019, October). *Classroom management in inclusive settings: Best practices*. Presentation on using opportunities to respond to manage behavior. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders, Tempe, Arizona.
- Ackerman, K. B., & Whitney, J. (2019, October). Leveraging two: Utilizing reciprocal peer coaching to meet the needs of students with challenging behavior in collaborative settings. Paper presented on research study with a focus on the reciprocal peer coaching strategy used during the study. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders, Tempe, Arizona.
- 2019 Horn, C. & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2019, September). *Exceptional partnerships: The role of dispositions in the preparation of exceptional candidates*. Presentation to teacher education faculty and Kentucky Department of Education members. Kentucky Association of Teacher Educators Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2019 **Ackerman, K. B.,** Lingo, A. S., Brownell, M., & McCray, E. (2019, February). *High leverage practices in action*. Multiple state presentation on course and program change. AACTE Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2019 **Ackerman, K. B.,** Lingo, A. S., Brownell, M., & McCray, E. (2019, February). *Kentucky KEEP:*Partnering to implement high leverage practices systemwide. Presentation on the CEEDAR/KEEP work completed in state. AACTE Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2019 **Ackerman, K. B.,** Lingo, A.S. & Whitney, J. T. (2019, January). *Building collaborative EPP partnerships to enhance educator quality: An example from Kentucky.* Presentation on the partnerships in higher education, work from the CEEDAR/KEEP grant. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.

- 2019 **Ackerman, K. B.,** Whitney, J. T., & Lingo, A. S. (2019, January). *Assessing educators'* knowledge and perceived importance of evidence-based and high-leverage practices in reimagining educator preparation. Poster prepared from research conducted state-wide. Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 2018 **Ackerman, K. B.,** Whitney, J. T., & Lingo, A. S. (2018, October). *Teaching pre-service teachers high leverage practices to address challenging behavior in inclusive P-12 settings*, Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders, Tempe, Arizona.
- 2018 Whitney, J. T., Lingo, A. S., & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2018, October). *Effects of a program incorporating self- graphing and goal setting on the mathematics fact fluency of students with challenging behaviors*. Presentation of data gathered during study. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders, Tempe, AZ.
- Ackerman, K. B. (2018, March). Scaling up: Increasing excellence across Kentucky educator preparation institutions. Roundtable presentation of KEEP and CEEDAR work in Kentucky. ACRES Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Ackerman, K. B. & Lingo, A. (2017, November). *Bringing high leverage practices to the bluegrass*. Presentation on two educator preparation programs' use of high leverage practices in coursework. Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia.
- 2017 **Ackerman, K. B.** & McKenzie, R. G. (2017, November). *Examining the efficacy of co-teaching at the secondary level: Special education teachers' perceptions of productivity.* Presentation of dissertation data. Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Annual Conference, Savannah, Georgia.
- 2016 McKenzie, R. G. & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2016, November). *Change begins in our classrooms: A direction for preparing future co-teachers*. Presentation of research agenda. Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Annual Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2013 **Ackerman, K. B.**, & Flanagan, S. (2013, November). *Systematizing the common core through graphic organizers*. Presentation to in-service teachers on using graphic organizers. Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Annual Conference, Louisville, Kentucky.
- 2010 Critchfield, A., Henderson, L., & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2010, October). *Content vocabulary: See it, say it, use it.* Presentation on assisting pre-service teachers with embedding content vocabulary. Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education annual conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

Invited Conference Presentations

2023 Whitney, T., & **Ackerman, K. B.** (2023, February). *Planting seeds to support scale-up: Implementing mini-grant competitions in KY and TN*. Invited joint presentation for the CEEDAR

- National Convening to share KEEP's experience implementing mini-grants state-wide. CEEDAR Cross-State Convening: Gold Rush- Growth and Outcomes for All Learners.
- Ackerman, K. B. (2022, November). Knowledge and skills and CEEDAR Center: Moving from novice to advanced beginner: Mastering the art of feedback (HLP 8 & 22). Invited poster presentation as part of national demonstration of practice learning opportunities; one of 20 individuals selected to present posters as part of Interactive Poster Session. Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Annual Conference, Richmond, Virginia.
- Ackerman, K.B., Gillon, N., Haskins, T., & Whitney, T. (2021, June). *Building policy through networking strategies*. Invited presentation in collaboration with faculty from the state of Washington on Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation networking strategies. CEEDAR Cross-state Convening, Virtual.
- Ackerman, K. B., Lingo, A. S., Whitney, T., Frey, S., Hebert, R., Sheely, A., & Isaacs, T. (2019, April). *KEEP: Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation*. Invited poster presentation on KEEP initiatives in Kentucky. CEEDAR Cross-State Convening: Elevating Outcomes: Recruiting, Preparing, and Retaining Teachers and Leaders We Need, Denver, Colorado.
- 2019 Goodman, S., **Ackerman, K. B.**, & Whitney, T. (2019, April). *Leveraging funding to promote and sustain implementation efforts*. Invited presentation in collaboration with Minnesota Department of Education on funding personnel preparation initiatives at the state and institution level. CEEDAR Convening: Elevating Outcomes: Recruiting, Preparing, and Retaining Teachers and Leaders We Need, Denver, Colorado.
- Ackerman, K. B., White, K., Mohr-Schroeder, M. (2019, May). *KEEP UK: Identifying issues and implementing solutions*. Invited presentation on initiatives aligned with CEEDAR work at the University of Kentucky. Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation Summit, Lexington, Kentucky.
- Ackerman, K. B., Whitney, J. T., & Lingo, A. S. (May, 2019). Assessing educators' knowledge and perceived importance of evidence-based and high-leverage practices in reimagining educator preparation. Invited poster on KEEP work to date. Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation Summit, Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2018 **Ackerman, K. B.,** Whitney, J. T., & Lingo, A. S. (2018, September). *KEEP: Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation*. Invited speaker presentation on the initiatives of KEEP. Kentucky Association of Teacher Educators Annual Conference, Lexington, Kentucky.

GRADUATE STUDENT EDUCATION (since 2017) Doctoral Committees (n=10)

Graduated (n=2)

Chair/Co-Chair of Doctoral Committees (n=3)

Current Committees (n=7)

Master's Committees (n=5)

Graduated (n=4)
Chair/Co-Chair of Thesis Committee (n=1)
Current Committees (n=1)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EDUCATION (since 2017)

Undergraduate Mentor (n=76)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL SERVICE

Editorial and Professional Journal Responsibilities

2023-2025	Editorial Board for Rural Special Education Quarterly (RSEQ) January 1, 2023 to
	December 31, 2025 (2-year term)
2022	Guest reviewer for Research in Developmental Disabilities (RDD)
2022	Special Edition Editor: Kentucky Teacher Education Journal, Volume 9, Issue 1: Retain,
	Engage, Train: Teacher Education Post-Pandemic
2021- present	Associate Editor: Kentucky Teacher Education Journal
2019-2022	Editorial Board for Rural Special Education Quarterly (RSEQ) October 1, 2019 to
	September 30, 2022 (3-year term)
2018-present	Guest reviewer for Learning Disabilities Research and Practice (LDRP)
2018-present	Guest reviewer for Rural Special Education Quarterly (RSEQ)
2018-present	Guest reviewer for Teaching Exceptional Children (TEC)
2015-2021	Guest reviewer for Kentucky Teacher Education Journal (KTEJ)

Professional Organization Service

2022 ľ	Member,	Advisory (Committee for	Council for	Exceptional	Children	Teacher Education	
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Division Conference Advisory Board

2014-Present Reviewer, Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division Conference

proposals

2013 Reviewer, National Conference on Undergraduate Research for Special Education

proposals

2010 Member, Standard setting study and review committee for PRAXIS Series assessments in

mild-moderate special education

STATE SERVICE

2023-2025 President, Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division, elected

position

2021-present Liaison, Kentucky Council of Administrators of Special Education

2021-2023	Vice-President, Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education
	Division, elected position
2019-2020	Consultant, Kentucky ABRI Project
2018-present	Steering Committee Team Leader, Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation (KEEP)
	State Leadership Team
2018-present	Reviewer, Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Conference proposals
2017	Research team leader, KACTE-CEEDAR
2016	Task Force Member, Career Pathways for Education: Frankfort, Kentucky, November 17,
	2016
2013-present	Representative, University of Kentucky to Institutes of Higher Education
	Consortium Meetings
2012-2018	Secretary, Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education
	Division, elected position
2012-2013	Representative, Midway University to Institutes of Higher Education
	Consortium Meetings

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC): Teacher Education Division

Kentucky Council for Exceptional Children (KYCEC): Kentucky Teacher Education Division

Kentucky Association of Teacher Educators (KATE)

Kentucky Association of Colleges for Teacher Education: K-KEEP Committee (KACTE)

Kentucky Excellence in Educator Preparation State Leadership Team (KEEP)

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE)

American Council on Rural Special Education (ACRES)