

Item 21:

Discussion of edTPA Pilot and Test Development Updates

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an update on the edTPA pilot and upcoming educator certification test development.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for the classroom teacher class certificate structure is Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.003(a), 21.031, and 21.041(b)(1), (2), and (4), 21.041(c), 21.044(a), 21.0441, 21.0418(a).

FUTURE ACTION EXPECTED: Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff anticipates presenting an edTPA pilot update to the Board at each SBEC meeting with an official review by the Board prior to September 1, 2021.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

This item provides an update on the edTPA pilot and test development dates. edTPA and updated assessments are a part of the teacher certification redesign plan that was discussed with the Board at the August 2018 work session and the October and December 2018 SBEC meetings to improve the quality and consistency of newly certified teachers. Staff received requests from the Board for recurring updates of edTPA and testing.

edTPA Pilot

TEA staff discussed the edTPA pilot with the Board during the October and December 2018 meetings as well as the February 2019 meeting. The Board voted to propose the edTPA pilot during the April 2019 meeting and voted to adopt the edTPA pilot during the July 2019 meeting, defining pilot as an examination that will be used for pilot purposes subject to Board review prior to September 2021.

Since the adoption of the edTPA pilot, TEA staff has actively worked with the 27 TEA-funded pilot programs to implement the edTPA assessment. As part of the 2019–2020 pilot timeline, pilot programs reported their fall pilot candidates in September. A summary of the pilot candidates by demographic group will be provided at the Board meeting. A timeline of the year 1 edTPA pilot can be found in Attachment II.

Test Development

Staff is actively working to update the current content pedagogy tests to increase their rigor and relevance and to ensure alignment with the current Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). A summary of the anticipated first operational dates of the new assessments are in the table below.

January 1, 2021	September 1, 2021	January 1, 2022	TBD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC–3 Content (292) • Science of Teaching Reading (293) • Educational Diagnostician (253) • Early Childhood–Grade 6 Core Subjects (391) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education (257) • Health (258) • School Counselor (252) • Trade and Industrial Education PPR (370) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts and Reading 4–8 (217) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts and Reading 7–12 • ESL Supplemental • Bilingual Education Supplemental • BTLPT–Spanish • Special Education and related assessments

PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT: The public and student benefit anticipated as a result of the recommendations and assessments would be more rigorous, relevant, and reliable requirements for the preparation, certification, and testing of classroom teachers upon entry into the profession, and retention of these qualified professionals for years to come.

Staff Members Responsible:

Grace Wu, Director, Educator Standards, Testing, and Preparation
 Beth Burkhart, Program Specialist, Educator Standards

Attachment:

- I. Statutory Citations
- II. edTPA Pilot Year 1 Timeline

ATTACHMENT I**Statutory Citations Related to Classroom Teacher Certificate Structure****Texas Education Code, §21.003, Certification Required (excerpt):**

- (a) A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B.

Texas Education Code, §21.031, Purpose:

- (a) The State Board for Educator Certification is established to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board shall regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.
- (b) In proposing rules under this subchapter, the board shall ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

Texas Education Code, §21.041. Rules; Fees (excerpts):

- (b) The board shall propose rules that:
 - (1) provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of this subchapter in a manner consistent with this subchapter;
 - (2) specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates;
 - (4) specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate;
- (c) The board shall propose a rule adopting a fee for the issuance and maintenance of an educator certificate that, when combined with any fees imposed under Subsection (d), is adequate to cover the cost of administration of this subchapter.

Texas Education Code, §21.044, Educator Preparation (excerpts):

- (a) The board shall propose rules establishing the training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program. The board shall specify the minimum academic qualifications required for a certificate.

Texas Education Code, §21.0441, Admission Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs:

- (2) if the person is seeking initial certification:
 - (A) has successfully completed at least:

- (i) 15 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking certification, if the person is seeking certification to teach mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or
 - (ii) 12 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking certification, if the person is not seeking certification to teach mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or
- (B) has achieved a satisfactory level of performance on a content certification examination, which may be a content certification examination administered by a vendor approved by the commissioner for purposes of administering such an examination for the year for which the person is applying for admission to the program.

Texas Education Code, §21.048, Certification Examinations (excerpt):

- (a) The board shall propose rules prescribing comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the board.

ATTACHMENT II

edTPA Pilot Year 1 Timeline

Date	Action
May 3, 2019	Notification of acceptance sent to participating EPPs
May 10, 2019	TEA Webinar: edTPA Orientation
June 7, 2019	TEA Webinar: Cycle of Effective Teaching and Role and Responsibilities
July 15, 2019	TEA Webinar: Task I Deep Dive—Planning for Instruction and Assessment
Before August 1, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onsite introductory sessions titled edTPA 101 provided by edTPA Program Managers at Pearson. These sessions will be open to faculty, supervisors, and P-12 partners designed to build an understanding of the purpose, development, and structure of the assessment. • Collect candidate demographic data and district partner data. • Regional workshops provided by members of the edTPA National Academy. These sessions are intended for methods and foundations faculty, university supervisors, and mentor teachers who support or supervise candidates and will cover the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A close examination of edTPA tasks and rubrics, including what candidates are asked to think about, do, and write for each task as well as how portfolios will be evaluated. ○ Sharing of instrumental resources best practices from successful implementation plans. ○ Guidelines and best practices for supporting candidates completing their edTPA portfolio.
August 9 th and 12 th , 2019	TEA Webinar: Task II Deep Dive—Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning
September 1, 2019	TEA staff collect following data from programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographic information • Faculty training documents • Curriculum alignment information • Materials used to determine which candidates are recommended for edTPA (versus PPR)
September 13 th and 16 th , 2019	TEA Webinar: Task III Deep Dive—Assessing Student Learning
October 2019	Tentative release of year 2 edTPA pilot applications
October 11, 2019	TEA Webinar: Task IV Deep Dive
October 24, 2019	First window closes for submission of edTPA portfolio.
November 10, 2019	First window closes for pilot reimbursement.
November 15, 2019	TEA Webinar: TBD based on program needs
January 10, 2020	TEA Webinar: Submission Logistics and Results Analyzer
February 13, 2020	TEA Webinar: TBD based on Program Needs

February 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group of teacher candidates who submitted the edTPA portfolio. • Survey to collect perception data from EPPs, principals, and districts • Analyze edTPA rubric scores from portfolios submitted October through March
February 2020	Tentative announcement of year 2 edTPA pilot participants
March 13, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEA Webinar: TBD based on Program Needs
April 10, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEA Webinar: TBD based on Program Needs
May 8, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TEA Webinar: TBD based on Program Needs
May-June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group of teacher candidates who submitted the edTPA portfolio. • Survey to collect perception data from EPPs, principals, and districts
June 30, 2020	Analyze edTPA rubric scores from portfolios submitted April through June
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly implementation calls with edTPA Program Managers and/or members of the edTPA National Academy. • Collect data during monthly calls about retention, perception, and additional costs related to edTPA • On-demand virtual supports from edTPA Program Managers and/or members of the edTPA National • Academy to address questions and concerns and determine next steps. • State-wide implementation support webinars for edTPA coordinators with edTPA Program Managers

As of September 1st, 42 trainings have been completed with an additional 27 scheduled. Trainings have been held in 17 of the 20 Education Service Center regions.