

## To the Administrator Addressed

**Commissioner Mike Morath** 

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DATE:	September 2, 2021
SUBJECT:	Requirements for Educators Completing an Internship on Intern or Probationary Certificates during the 2021-2022 Academic Year
CATEGORY:	Local Educational Agency Staff
NEXT STEPS:	Share with appropriate staff

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide information regarding requirements under Title 19, Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter §228.35, as they relate to educators who are employees of a local educational agency (LEA) and are enrolled in an educator preparation program completing an internship on an intern or probationary certificate. When employing educators completing an internship on an intern or probationary certificate, LEAs agree to adhere to the educator internship requirements in the TAC to ensure that educators receive required supports.

In accordance with the TAC, during the 2021-2022 academic year, educators completing an internship on an intern or probationary certificate must:

- Complete their internship in an "actual school setting rather than a distance learning lab
  or virtual school setting." Therefore, educators completing an internship on an intern or
  probationary certificate must be assigned as teachers of record in a face-to-face
  classroom setting in order to meet preparation requirements.
- Be observed by a field supervisor throughout the year at the candidate's school site in a
  face-to-face setting. Therefore, field supervisors should be classified as allowed visitors
  on those campuses with educators completing internships on intern or probationary
  certificates.

LEAs are encouraged to work in close partnership with their candidates' educator preparation programs to ensure that all preparation program requirements are met and that all necessary safety protocols are actively communicated and followed.

The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) will have the opportunity to implement recent legislation, through the rulemaking process with opportunities for stakeholder feedback, that provides for flexibility for future years in relation to these requirements.

## **Contact Information:**

Texas Educator Agency
Division of Educator Standards, Testing, and Preparation

<u>Educator Preparation HelpDesk</u>