

Item 20:

Discussion of Texas Test of Educator Proficiency (T-TEP) Development Updates

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) with an update on development of the Texas Test of Educator Proficiency (T-TEP).

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.

TEC, §21.003(a), states that 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 the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

TEC, §21.031, authorizes the SBEC to regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators, and states that in proposing rules under the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, the SBEC 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.

TEC, §21.041(b)(1), requires the SBEC to propose rules that provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, in a manner consistent with the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

TEC, §21.041(b)(2), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates.

TEC, §21.041(b)(4), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate.

TEC, §21.044(a), requires the SBEC to propose rules establishing training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program.

TEC, §21.0441, requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify requirements for admission into educator preparation programs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: This item provides an update on the development of the Texas Test of Educator Proficiency (T-TEP). The T-TEP Development Team (TDT) will design all exam components and aligned implementation resources.

Background Information on Development of a Texas-Specific Teacher Performance Assessment and the Texas Test of Educator Proficiency (T-TEP)

The table below provides a summary of SBEC discussion related to the development of a Texas-specific teacher performance assessment:

SBEC Meeting	Discussion/Action
April 2024	SBEC directed TEA to pursue development of a teacher performance assessment option with Texas EPPs leading development
September 2024	TEA discussed a plan to launch grant application that would assist in selecting an EPP assessment development team
April 2025	TEA staff discussed the updated name of the Texas-specific teacher performance assessment, provided an update on the Development Team selection grant process, and shared potential opportunities for stakeholder engagement throughout T-TEP's development process
July 2025	TEA staff provided the SBEC with names of the selected programs and representatives who will serve as the T-TEP EPP Development Team

T-TEP EPP Development Team

In May 2025, TEA announced the membership of the TDT, who were selected through a competitive grant application process. The TDT will design all exam components and aligned implementation resources, participate in professional learning communities, and engage in learning calls and focus groups with districts and EPPs.

Since selection, TDT has engaged in both virtual and in-person development sessions. The table below provides a summary of T-TEP development sessions to date.

Session	Summary
May 2025 Kick-off	Development Team members received grant requirements and information concerning their role as development team members.
July 2025 Summer Training	Development Team members received training that provided context around concepts and practices present in the SBEC's revised Ch. 235 standards
September 2025 Development Meeting 1	Development Team members drafted decision points regarding assessment design and structure such as number of tasks, rubric type, allowable evidence, etc.

October 2025 Development Meeting 2	Development Team members created a draft of T-TEP framework and began to draft the assessment's content validation survey.
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In addition to the virtual and in-person meetings listed above, TDT members attend both bi-weekly development meetings and subcommittee meetings to accomplish development tasks.

T-TEP Stakeholder Engagement

The development of T-TEP will include feedback from stakeholders across the state. Extensive stakeholder engagement at critical milestones will ensure the development of a quality assessment. The approximately two-year exam development process includes ongoing opportunities for stakeholder engagement and feedback including:

- T-TEP Content Review Committee: In October, TEA staff selected a group of 40 stakeholders, who represent a variety of Texas EPP faculty/staff and district partners, and will provide feedback on exam structure and content. This committee met during two sessions to provide initial feedback related to the assessment:
 - November 18, 2025: The content review committee met to discuss vision and context for T-TEP
 - December 8, 2025: The content review committee will meet to provide feedback on the T-TEP framework ahead of the Content Validation Survey launch (anticipated January 2026)
- EPCE Stakeholder Group: Members of this stakeholder group will provide feedback on T-TEP implementation policy and resources.
- Content Validation Survey, Listening Tour, Focus Group and Field Test Participants: EPP and district stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide valuable feedback on the content and implementation of the T-TEP. This feedback will help inform potential refinements in exam features, the development of implementation resources, and important policy considerations.

Next Steps

TEA staff anticipate providing the SBEC with an opportunity to discuss operationalizing T-TEP during the February 2026 meeting.

Staff Member Responsible:

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