

Item 23:

Discussion of Appointment of Bilingual Special Education Educator Standards Advisory Committee

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss the appointment of a standards advisory committee to develop Bilingual Special Education educator standards to implement House Bill (HB) 2256, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Texas Education Code, §§21.031(b), 21.040(3-4), 21.041(b)(4), and 21.04891.

FUTURE ACTION EXPECTED: TEA staff expects to present the committee list at the July 2022 meeting for Board approval. Potential rule changes would be presented to the board at a future SBEC meeting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: SBEC is statutorily authorized to ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse population of this state. SBEC is also statutorily required to appoint advisory committee members to recommend standards for each class of certificate. The standards are the basis for the certification examinations and set the requirements for EPP curriculum and delivery. The development committees include practicing educators, school district personnel, experts, and EPP faculty. These individuals collaborate to draft educator standards or review existing educator standards to ensure that the educator standards align with the commissioner's educator standards, reflect best practices, and where applicable, align with the current versions of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) that are adopted by the State Board for Education (SBOE).

HB 2256 Bilingual Special Education Certification Requirements

HB 2256, 87th Legislative Session, Regular Session, 2021 requires the SBEC to implement a new Bilingual Special Education educator certificate. The intent of the certificate is to ensure that there are teachers with special training in providing instruction to students of limited English proficiency with disabilities. HB 2256 specifies that to be eligible for the certificate, a candidate must complete educator preparation program coursework, with skills-based course of instruction on providing instruction to students of limited English proficiency with disabilities, including:

- the foundations of bilingual, multicultural, and second language special education;
- providing individualized education programs for students of limited English proficiency with disabilities;
- providing assessment of students of limited English proficiency with and without disabilities;
- developing teaching methods to recognize the intellectual, developmental, and emotional needs of students in dual language and transitional bilingual education settings;
- teaching fundamental academic skills, including reading, writing, and mathematics, to students of limited English proficiency; and

- creating partnerships with families and school professionals.

In addition, to be eligible for the Bilingual Special Education Certificate, HB 2256 requires that candidates perform satisfactorily on a bilingual special education certification exam prescribed by the Board.

Bilingual Special Education Educator Standards Advisory Committee

The first step to develop the Bilingual Special Education certificate and associated requirements would be to develop Bilingual Special Education educator standards. These Bilingual Special Education standards would serve as the basis for the certification examination development and set the requirements for EPP curriculum and delivery. With this in mind, TEA staff will seek to establish a Bilingual Special Education Educator Standards Advisory Committee.

TEA staff will seek committee members from the SBEC, legislative staff, professional organizations, educator preparation programs, teacher organizations, and other key stakeholders to ensure a pool of well-qualified candidates for selection. The application period would begin on April 29, 2022 and close on June 1, 2022. The application used to recruit and select committee members can be found in Attachment I. The committee members selected will develop the educator standards in alignment with the statutory requirements and provide input on the preparation and certification pathway for the new certificate area. The draft proposed action plan for the development of the Bilingual Special Education educator standards can be found in Attachment II.

Next Steps

TEA staff anticipates recommending a diverse committee member list for SBEC approval at the July 2022 SBEC meeting. In addition, TEA staff will regularly update the Board on the progress of the committee meetings and will present potential rule changes at a future SBEC meeting.

Staff Members Responsible:

Jessica McLoughlin, Director, Educator Standards and Testing

Attachments:

I. Bilingual Special Education Standards Advisory Committee Application

[\(Attachment I\)](#)

II. Draft Bilingual Special Education Educator Standards Advisory Committee Timeline

[\(Attachment II\)](#)

ATTACHMENT I
(Back to Attachments List)

Bilingual Special Education Standards Advisory Committee Application

Applicant Information

Name	
School District	
ESC Region	
Name of Current School, University or Program	
Email	
Years of Relevant Experience	
List of current and valid educator certifications (specific grade, content, etc.)	
Ethnicity	
Race	
Gender	
Have you previously served on any TEA Advisory Committees? If so, please list them.	
Please provide your TEA ID (if applicable)	

Role-Related Information

1. Describe how your skills and qualifications are well-suited for this work developing bilingual special education educator standards, including:
 - a. Description of your background and professional experience in a school district, college/university, and/or educator preparation program, specifically your experience supporting the development of bilingual special education students or development of bilingual and/or special educator teacher candidates.
 - b. List of your most recent student achievement/proficiency data, at the candidate, classroom, and/or campus level.

2. Discuss your vision for developing bilingual special education educator

standards. What impact do you think these standards would have on teacher candidates? Texas classrooms and students?

3. What are top resources, professional organizations, and/or professional development experiences have informed your implementation of research- and evidence-based practices in bilingual special education instruction?

ATTACHMENT II
([Back to Attachments List](#))**Draft Bilingual Special Education Educator Standards Advisory Committee Timeline**

Date	Proposed Action
May 2, 2022	TEA staff distributed educator standard advisory committee applications. Application period opened.
June 1, 2022	Application period closed.
July 22, 2022	SBEC opportunity to appoint educator standards advisory committee.
July 25, 2022	Appointed committee members notified.
August 2022	TEA staff host the first educator standards advisory committee meeting.
September 2022	TEA staff host the second educator standards advisory committee meeting.
October 2022	TEA staff host additional committee meetings as needed.
December 2022	Committee-recommended standards presented to the Board for discussion.