

General Description and Context:

The edTPA is a **performance-based, subject-specific assessment** used to emphasize, measure, and support the skills and knowledge that all educators need to be effective. Teacher candidates prepare **a portfolio of authentic evidence that reflects their effective teaching practices with Texas students in Texas classroom** during their clinical or internship experience. Specifically, teacher candidates demonstrate their proficiency on the edTPA by completing three tasks designed to measure foundational skills novice teachers need: (1) Planning for instruction and assessment, (2) Instructing and engaging students in learning, and (3) Assessing students' learning. Successful completion of the edTPA leads to teacher certification and provides rich data to the teacher candidate and their preparation program to support continuous improvement and growth.

edTPA Pilot:

During the July 2019 State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) meeting, the SBEC initially approved a 2-year edTPA pilot, which was later extended to a 3-year pilot as an optional assessment. This exam was an additional option with the current Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR EC-12) exam, for the demonstration of pedagogical knowledge and skills for most initial educator certification categories.

The edTPA, as a portfolio-based performance assessment used for teacher certification, was piloted as a part of the SBEC's broader teacher certification redesign plan to improve the quality and consistency of newly certified teachers. The teacher certification redesign plan stemmed from a broader SBEC focus on improving educator quality, beginning in 2015. The purpose of the edTPA pilot was to learn about the impact of implementing a teacher performance assessment on educator preparation program practice and candidate development to inform future SBEC policy decisions.

Throughout the edTPA pilot, TEA staff, in collaboration with external stakeholders and partners, worked to facilitate an **ecosystem of support** for participating educator preparation programs and teacher candidates participating in the pilot. These supports included:

- A team of Texas edTPA Regional Coordinators charged with supporting preparation programs in implementing edTPA;
- Monthly edTPA webinars, workshops, and communities of practice;
- Texas-specific edTPA tools and resources developed by Texas preparation programs;
- Candidate reimbursement of the exam fee and stipends for mentor teachers; and
- Pilot Support Grants for participating programs.

edTPA Pilot Funding (to date)

Year 1 (2019-2020)	\$134,906.00 (Total)
Candidate Reimbursements and Mentor Teacher Stipends	\$134,906.00
Year 2 (2020-2021)	\$339,007.00 (Total)
Pilot Program Support Grants	\$89,670.00
Texas edTPA Regional Coordinator Grants	\$36,000.00
Candidate Reimbursements and Mentor Teacher Stipends	\$213,337.00
Year 3 (2021-2022)	\$566,337.00 (Total)
Pilot Program Support Grants	\$108,000.00
Texas edTPA Regional Coordinator Grants	\$60,000.00
Candidate Reimbursements and Mentor Teacher Stipends	\$398,337.00
edTPA Continued Support (2022-2023)	\$562,000.00 (Total)
Teacher Candidate Support Grants	\$562,000.00
Total Expenditures:	\$1,602,205.00

Texas edTPA Pilot Highlights

Year 1 Participation (2019-20):

- 27 participating programs
- 419 candidate portfolio submissions

Year 2 Participation (2020-21):

- 34 participating programs
- 846 candidate portfolio submissions

Year 3 Participation (2021-22):

- 40 participating programs
- 1410 candidate portfolio submissions

Over **100 virtual workshops and webinars** provided

Over \$300k provided in grant support to 10+ preparation programs