

Item 19:**Discussion of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter
228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs,
§228.2, Definitions, §228.10, Approval Process, §228.30,
Educator Preparation Curriculum, §228.35, Preparation
Program Coursework and/or Training****DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to discuss proposed amendments to 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, §228.2, Definitions, §228.10, Approval Process, §228.30, Educator Preparation Curriculum, §228.35, Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training. The proposed amendments would implement Senate Bills (SBs) 226 and 1590, and House Bills (HBs) 139, and 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021. The proposed amendments would allow educator preparation programs the flexibility to replace up to one formal face-to-face observation with at least two formal virtual observations; would provide for training requirements for all educators with regard to students with disabilities and virtual instruction and virtual learning; and would allow service members, spouses, and veterans to get credit toward educator certification requirements for clinical and professional experience.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for 19 TAC Chapter §§228.2, 228.10, 228.30 and 228.35 is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.031; 21.041(b)(1) and (2); 21.044 as amended by HB 159 and SB 226, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; 21.0442(c); 21.0443, as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; 21.045(a), as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021; 21.0453, as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b), as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); and 21.051, as amended by SB 1590, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021; and the Texas Occupations Code (TOC), §55.004, as amended and added by HB 139, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; §55.007.

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), require 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), require the SBEC to propose rules that specifies the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates.

TEC, §21.044, as amended by HB 159 and SB 226, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, 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, §21.0442(c), requires the SBEC to ensure that an EPP requires at least 80 hours of instruction for a candidate seeking a Trade and Industrial Workforce Training certificate.

TEC, §21.0443, as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, requires the SBEC to establish rules for the approval and renewal of EPPs, including requiring programs to incorporate proactive instructional planning techniques in their coursework, and to integrate inclusive practices, evidence-based instruction and intervention strategies throughout course work, clinical experience and student teaching.

TEC, §21.0453, states that the SBEC may propose rules as necessary to ensure that all EPPs provide the SBEC with accurate information.

TEC, §21.045(a), as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, requires the SBEC to establish standards to govern the approval and continuing accountability of all educator preparation programs.

TEC, §21.0454, requires the SBEC to develop a set of risk factors to assess the overall risk level of each EPP and use the set of risk factors to guide the TEA in conducting monitoring, inspections, and evaluations of EPPs.

TEC, §21.0455, requires the SBEC to propose rules necessary to establish a process for complaints to be directed against an EPP.

TEC, §21.046(b), states that the qualifications for certification as a principal must be sufficiently flexible so that an outstanding teacher may qualify by substituting approved experience and professional training for part of the educational requirements.

TEC, §21.048(a), states the SBEC shall propose rules prescribing the comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the board.

TEC, §21.0485, states the issuance requirements for certification to teach students with visual impairments.

TEC, §21.0487(c), states that because an effective principal is essential to school improvement, the SBEC shall ensure that each candidate for certification as a principal is of the highest caliber and that multi-level screening processes, validated comprehensive assessment programs, and flexible internships with successful mentors exist to determine whether a candidate for certification as a principal possesses the essential knowledge, skills, and leadership capabilities necessary for success.

TEC, §21.0489(c), states the eligibility for an Early Childhood: Prekindergarten–Grade 3 certificate.

TEC, §21.049(a), authorizes the SBEC to adopt rules providing for educator certification programs as an alternative to traditional EPPs.

TEC, §21.0491, requires the SBEC to create a probationary and standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate.

TEC, §21.050(a), states that a person who applies for a teaching certificate for which board rules require a bachelor's degree must possess a bachelor's degree with an academic major that is related to the curriculum as prescribed under Subchapter A, Chapter 28.

TEC, §21.050(b), states that the SBEC may not require more than 18 semester credit hours of education courses at the baccalaureate level for the granting of a teaching certificate.

TEC, §21.050(c), states that a person who receives a bachelor's degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under the TEC, §54.363, may not be required to participate in any field experience or internship consisting of student teaching to receive a teaching certificate.

TEC, §21.051, as amended by HB 159 and SB 1590, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, provides a requirement that before a school may employ a certification candidate as a teacher of record, the candidate must have completed at least 15 hours of field-based experience in which the candidate was actively engaged at an approved school in instructional or educational activities involving a diverse student population under supervision, and gives SBEC rulemaking authority to propose rules providing flexible options for field-based experiences or internships required for certification that involve interaction with a diverse student population and options for candidate observations.

TOC, §55.004, as amended and added by HB 139, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, requires state agencies to adopt rules for issuance of licensure to members of the military community and provides alternatives to become eligible for licensure.

TOC, §55.007, provides that verified military service, training, and education be credited toward licensing requirements.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: The SBEC rules in 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, establish the requirements for EPPs in the preparation of candidates for Texas educator certification. An update to Chapter 228 would implement SB 1590, and HBs 139, and 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021. The following is a description of the proposed amendment included in Attachment II.

§228.2. Definitions.

The proposed new §228.2(34) would implement HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, to define "students with disabilities" for purposes of educator preparation program requirements in preparing candidates for educator certification. The proposed definition parallels the definition of "student with a disability" in TEC §21.001(4), as added by HB 159.

The proposed amendment to §228.2(34) and (35) would provide for a technical edit to renumber to (35) and (36).

§228.10. Approval Process.

The proposed new §228.10(a)(1)(J) would implement HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, by conditioning educator preparation program approval, and renewal of approval, on the program proving that it has met the requirements prescribed in TEC §21.0443(b)(1) and (2) by showing that it has incorporated proactive instructional planning techniques throughout course work and across content areas, and integrated inclusive practices for all students, including students with disabilities. The rule references TEC §21.0443(b)(1) and (2) to incorporate by reference the statute's specific requirements for instructional planning techniques and inclusive practices.

§228.30. Educator Preparation Curriculum.

The proposed amendment to §228.30(c)(8) would implement SB 226, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, by adding virtual instruction and virtual learning to the list of topics that educator preparation programs must include in their curriculum. The proposed amendment specifically references TEC §21.001 to clarify that the definitions of "virtual instruction," "virtual learning," "digital literacy," and "digital learning" are the same in the rule as in the statute.

The proposed new §228.30(c)(9) would implement HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, by specifying that educator preparation program curriculum must include subject matter related to educating students with disabilities, including the use of proactive instructional planning techniques and evidence-based instructional practices. The rule references TEC §21.044(a-1) to incorporate by reference the statute's specific requirements for the training an educator candidate must receive regarding teaching students with disabilities, including proactive instructional techniques and evidence-based instructional practices.

§228.35. Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training.

The proposed amendment to §228.35(a)(5)(A) would implement HB 139, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, by adding "clinical and professional experience" training to the list of appropriate credit toward certification requirements that EPPs must develop criteria and procedures to allow. HB 139 allows state licensing agencies to give military service members, spouses, and veterans credit toward certification requirements for clinical and professional experience.

SB 1590, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, requires the SBEC to propose rules that allow for options for candidate observations that provide for no fewer than three in-person observations, or two in-person observations and two virtual observations that are equivalent in rigor to in-person observations. The proposed amendment to §228.35(g) would implement SB 1590's requirement that virtual observations be equivalent in rigor to in-person options for formal observations by ensuring that virtual and in-person observations are similar in procedure and documentation. The proposed amendment would clarify that for each formal observation, whether face-to-face or virtual, the field supervisor at the EPP must participate in an individualized pre-observation conference with the candidate, document educational practices observed; provide written feedback through an individualized, synchronous, and interactive post-observation conference with the candidate; and provide a copy of the written feedback to the candidate's cooperating teacher or mentor.

The proposed amendment in new §228.35(9) would implement SB 1590's amendment to TEC §21.051(f) that allows the SBEC to adopt rules providing for virtual observations. In keeping with the ratio of in-person observations to virtual observations set out in TEC §21.051(f) as amended by SB 1590, the proposed amendments to §228.35(g)(9) would allow EPPs the flexibility to replace up to one of the minimum required formal face-to-face observations with at least two formal virtual observations beginning with the 2022-2023 academic year. In response to stakeholder feedback at the August 17 SBEC Educator Preparation Advisory Committee meeting on how to implement SB 1590's requirement that virtual observations be as rigorous as in-person observations, the proposed amendment in new §228.35(g)(9)(A)-(D) would clarify that the virtual observations must still be at least 45 minutes in length, must be conducted by the field supervisor, must be followed by a post-observation conference within 72 hours of the educational activity, and must be conducted through use of an unedited electronic transmission, video, or technology-based method.

The proposed amendment in new 19 TAC §228.35(g)(10) would clarify that an EPP can offer as many additional formal observations over the minimums prescribed in §228.35(g)(3)-(8), either face-to-face or virtually, as is necessary to meet a candidate's needs and at the discretion of the EPP.

FISCAL IMPACT: The TEA staff has determined that there is no additional fiscal impact on state and local governments and there are no additional costs to entities required to comply with the proposal.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACT: The proposal has no effect on local economy; therefore, no local employment impact statement is required under Texas Government Code (TGC), §2001.002.

SMALL BUSINESS, MICROBUSINESS, AND RURAL COMMUNITY IMPACT: The proposal has no direct adverse economic impact for small businesses, microbusinesses, or rural communities; therefore, no regulatory flexibility analysis, specified in TGC, §2006.002, is required.

COST INCREASE TO REGULATED PERSONS: The proposal does not impose a cost on regulated persons, another state agency, a special district, or a local government and, therefore, is not subject to TGC, §2001.0045.

TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT: The proposal does not impose a burden on private real property and, therefore, does not constitute a taking under Texas Government Code, §2007.043.

GOVERNMENT GROWTH IMPACT: The TEA staff prepared a Government Growth Impact Statement assessment for this proposed rulemaking. During the first five years the proposed rulemaking would be in effect, it would not create or eliminate a government program; would not require the creation of new employee positions or elimination of existing employee positions; would not require an increase or decrease in future legislative appropriations to the agency; would not require an increase or decrease in fees paid to the agency; would not create a new regulation; would not expand, limit, or repeal an existing regulation; would not increase or decrease the number of individuals subject to its applicability; and would not positively or adversely affect the state's economy.

PUBLIC BENEFIT AND COST TO PERSONS: The public benefit anticipated as a result of the proposal would be clear guidance to EPPs on requirements for providing preparation to an individual seeking certification as an educator. The TEA staff has determined there is no anticipated cost to persons required to comply with the proposal.

DATA AND REPORTING IMPACT: The proposal would have no new data and reporting impact.

PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS: The TEA staff has determined that the proposal would not require a written report or other paperwork to be completed by a principal or classroom teacher.

Staff Member Responsible:

Jessica McLoughlin, Director, Educator Standards, Testing, and Preparation

Attachments:

- I. Statutory Citations
- II. Text of Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, §§228.2, Definitions, 228.10, Approval Process, 228.30, Educator Preparation Curriculum, 228.35, Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training

ATTACHMENT I**Statutory Citations Relating to Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, §§228.2, Definitions, 228.10, Approval Process, 228.30, Educator Preparation Curriculum, 228.35, Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training****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;

Texas Education Code, §21.044, Educator Preparation, as amended by SB 226 and HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021:

- (a) The board shall propose rules:
 - (1) specifying what each educator is expected to know and be able to do, particularly with regard to students with disabilities;
 - (2) establishing the training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program; and
 - (3) specifying [-The board shall specify] the minimum academic qualifications required for a certificate.
- (a-1) Any training requirements for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) must require that the person demonstrate:
 - (1) basic knowledge of:
 - (A) each disability category under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.) and how each category can affect student learning and development; and
 - (B) conditions that may be considered a disability under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), and how a condition covered by that section can affect student learning and development;
 - (2) competence in the use of proactive instructional planning techniques that:
 - (A) provide flexibility in the ways:
 - (i) information is presented;

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- (2) include effective strategies, including de-escalation techniques and positive behavioral interventions and supports, for teaching and intervening with students with mental health conditions or who engage in substance abuse.
- (c-2) Any minimum academic qualifications for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) that require a person to possess a bachelor's degree must also require that the person receive, as part of the training required to obtain that certificate, instruction in digital learning, virtual learning, and virtual instruction, including a digital literacy evaluation followed by a prescribed digital learning curriculum. The instruction required must:
- (1) be aligned with the International Society for Technology in Education's standards for teachers;
 - (2) provide effective, evidence-based strategies to determine a person's degree of digital literacy; ~~and~~
 - (3) cover best practices in:
 - (A) assessing students receiving virtual instruction, based on academic progress;
and
 - (B) developing a virtual learning curriculum; and
 - (4) include resources to address any deficiencies identified by the digital literacy evaluation.
- (d) In proposing rules under this section, the board shall specify that to obtain a certificate to teach an "applied STEM course," as that term is defined by Section 28.027, at a secondary school, a person must:
- (1) pass the certification test administered by the recognized national or international business and industry group that created the curriculum the applied STEM course is based on; and
 - (2) have at a minimum:
 - (A) an associate degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
and
 - (B) three years of work experience in an occupation for which the applied STEM course is intended to prepare the student.
- (e) In proposing rules under this section for a person to obtain a certificate to teach a health science technology education course, the board shall specify that a person must have:
- (1) an associate degree or more advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
 - (2) current licensure, certification, or registration as a health professions practitioner issued by a nationally recognized accrediting agency for health professionals;
and
 - (3) at least two years of wage earning experience utilizing the licensure requirement.
- (f) The board may not propose rules for a certificate to teach a health science technology education course that specifies that a person must have a bachelor's degree or that establish any other credential or teaching experience requirements that exceed the requirements under Subsection (e).

- (f-1) Board rules addressing ongoing educator preparation program support for a candidate seeking certification in a certification class other than classroom teacher may not require that an educator preparation program conduct one or more formal observations of the candidate on the candidate's site in a face-to-face setting. The rules must permit each required formal observation to occur on the candidate's site or through the use of electronic transmission or other video-based or technology-based methods.
- (g) Each educator preparation program must provide information regarding:
- (1) the skills that educators are required to possess, the responsibilities that educators are required to accept, and the high expectations for all students, including students with disabilities, in this state;
 - (2) the effect of supply and demand forces on the educator workforce in this state;
 - (3) the performance over time of the educator preparation program;
 - (4) the importance of building strong classroom management skills;
 - (5) the framework in this state for teacher and principal evaluation, including the procedures followed in accordance with Subchapter H; and
 - (6) appropriate relationships, boundaries, and communications between educators and students.

Texas Education Code, §21.0442, Educator Preparation Program for Probationary and Standard Trade and Industrial Workforce Training Certificates, (excerpts):

- (c) In proposing rules for an educator preparation program under this section, the board shall ensure that the program requires at least 80 hours of classroom instruction in:
- (1) a specific pedagogy;
 - (2) creating lesson plans;
 - (3) creating student assessment instruments;
 - (4) classroom management; and
 - (5) relevant federal and state education laws.

Texas Education Code, §21.0443, Educator Preparation Program Approval and Renewal, as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021:

- (a) The board shall propose rules to establish standards to govern the approval or renewal of approval of:
- (1) educator preparation programs; and
 - (2) certification fields authorized to be offered by an educator preparation program.
- (b) To be eligible for approval or renewal of approval, an educator preparation program must:
- (1) incorporate proactive instructional planning techniques throughout course work and across content areas using a framework that:
- (A) provides flexibility in the ways:
 - (i) information is presented;
 - (ii) students respond or demonstrate knowledge and skills; and

- (iii) students are engaged;
 - (B) reduces barriers in instruction;
 - (C) provides appropriate accommodations, supports, and challenges; and
 - (D) maintains high achievement expectations for all students, including students with disabilities and students of limited English proficiency;
 - (2) integrate inclusive practices for all students, including students with disabilities, and evidence-based instruction and intervention strategies throughout course work, clinical experience, and student teaching;
 - (3) adequately prepare candidates for educator certification; and
 - (4) meet the standards and requirements of the board.
- (c) The board shall require that each educator preparation program be reviewed for renewal of approval at least every five years. The board shall adopt an evaluation process to be used in reviewing an educator preparation program for renewal of approval.

Texas Education Code, §21.045, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs, as amended by House Bill 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021 (excerpt):

- (a) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish standards to govern the continuing accountability of all educator preparation programs based on the following information that is disaggregated with respect to race, sex, and ethnicity:
 - (1) results of the certification examinations prescribed under Section 21.048(a);
 - (2) performance based on the appraisal system for beginning teachers adopted by the board;
 - (3) achievement, including improvement in achievement, of all students, including students with disabilities, taught by beginning teachers for the first three years following certification, to the extent practicable;
 - (4) compliance with board requirements regarding the frequency, duration, and quality of structural guidance and ongoing support provided by field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship; and
 - (5) results from a teacher satisfaction survey, developed by the board with stakeholder input, of new teachers performed at the end of the teacher's first year of teaching.

Texas Education Code, §21.0453, Information for Candidates for Teacher Certification, as amended by House Bill 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021:

- (a) The board shall require an educator preparation program to provide candidates for teacher certification with information concerning the following:
 - (1) skills and responsibilities required of teachers with regard to all students, including students with disabilities;
 - (2) expectations for student performance, including students with disabilities, based on state standards;
 - (3) the current supply of and demand for teachers in this state;
 - (4) the importance of developing classroom management skills; and

- (5) the state's framework for appraisal of teachers and principals.
- (b) The board may propose rules as necessary for administration of this section, including rules to ensure that accurate and consistent information is provided by all educator preparation programs.

Texas Education Code, §21.0454, Risk Factors for Educator Preparation Programs: Risk-Assessment Model:

- (a) The board shall propose rules necessary to develop a set of risk factors to use in assessing the overall risk level of each educator preparation program. The set of risk factors must include:
 - (1) a history of the program's compliance with state law and board rules, standards, and procedures, with consideration given to:
 - (A) the seriousness of any violation of a rule, standard or procedure;
 - (B) whether the violation resulted in an action being taken against the program;
 - (C) whether the violation was promptly remedied by the program;
 - (D) the number of alleged violations; and
 - (E) any other matter considered to be appropriate in evaluating the program's compliance history; and
 - (2) whether the program meets the accountability standards under Section 21.045.
- (b) The set of risk factors developed by the board may include whether an educator preparation program is accredited by other organizations.
- (c) The board shall use the set of risk factors to guide the agency in conducting monitoring, inspections, and compliance audits of educator preparation programs, including evaluations associated with renewals under Section 21.0443.

Texas Education Code, §21.0455, Complaints Regarding Educator Preparation Programs:

- (a) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish a process for a candidate for teacher certification to direct a complaint against an educator preparation program to the agency.
- (b) The board by rule shall require an educator preparation program to notify candidates for teacher certification of the complaint process adopted under Subsection (a). The notice must include the name, mailing address, telephone number, and Internet website address of the agency for the purpose of directing complaints to the agency. The educator preparation program shall provide for that notification:
 - (1) on the Internet website of the educator preparation program, if the program maintains a website; and
 - (2) on a sign prominently displayed in program facilities.
- (c) The board shall post the complaint process adopted under Subsection (a) on the agency's Internet website.
- (d) The board has no authority to arbitrate or resolve contractual or commercial issues between an educator preparation program and a candidate for teacher certification.

Texas Education Code, §21.046, Qualifications for Certification as Superintendent or Principal as amended by HB 159, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021 (excerpts):

- (b) The qualifications for certification as a principal must be sufficiently flexible so that an outstanding teacher may qualify by substituting approved experience and professional training for part of the educational requirements. Supervised and approved on-the-job experience in addition to required internship shall be accepted in lieu of classroom hours. The qualifications must emphasize:
- (1) instructional leadership, including the ability to create an inclusive school environment and to foster parent involvement;
 - (2) administration, supervision, and communication skills;
 - (3) curriculum and instruction management, including curriculum and instruction management for students with disabilities;
 - (4) performance evaluation;
 - (5) organization; and
 - (6) fiscal management.

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. The commissioner shall determine the satisfactory level of performance required for each certification examination. For the issuance of a generalist certificate, the commissioner shall require a satisfactory level of examination performance in each core subject covered by the examination.

Texas Education Code, §21.0485, Certification to Teach Students with Visual Impairments:

- (a) To be eligible to be issued a certificate to teach students with visual impairments, a person must:
- (1) complete either:
 - (A) all course work required for that certification in an approved educator preparation program; or
 - (B) an alternative educator certification program approved for the purpose by the board;
 - (2) perform satisfactorily on each examination prescribed under Section 21.048 for certification to teach students with visual impairments, after completing the course work or program described by Subdivision (1); and
 - (3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the board.
- (b) Subsection (a) does not apply to eligibility for a certificate to teach students with visual impairments, including eligibility for renewal of that certificate, if the application for the initial certificate was submitted on or before September 1, 2011.

Texas Education Code, §21.0487, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Teacher Certification (excerpts):

- (c) The board shall propose rules to:
 - (1) approve educator preparation programs to prepare a person as a teacher for certification under this section; and
 - (2) establish requirements under which:
 - (A) a person's training and experience acquired during the person's military service serves as proof of the person's demonstration of subject matter knowledge if that training and experience is verified by the branch of service in which the person served; and
 - (B) a person's employment by a school district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor before the person was enrolled in an educator preparation program or while the person is enrolled in an educator preparation program is applied to satisfy any student teaching, internship, or field-based experience program requirement.

Texas Education Code, §21.0489, Early Childhood Certification, (excerpt):

- (c) To be eligible for a certificate established under this section, a person must:
 - (1) either:
 - (A) satisfactorily complete the course work for that certificate in an educator preparation program, including a knowledge-based and skills-based course of instruction on early childhood education that includes:
 - (i) teaching methods for:
 - (a) using small group instructional formats that focus on building social, emotional, and academic skills;
 - (b) navigating multiple content areas; and
 - (c) managing a classroom environment in which small groups of students are working on different tasks; and
 - (ii) strategies for teaching fundamental academic skills, including reading, writing, and numeracy; or
 - (B) hold an early childhood through grade six certificate issued under this subchapter and satisfactorily complete a course of instruction described by Paragraph (A);
 - (2) perform satisfactorily on an early childhood certificate examination prescribed by the board; and
 - (3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the board.

Texas Education Code, §21.049, Alternative Certification (excerpt):

- (a) To provide a continuing additional source of qualified educators, the board shall propose rules providing for educator certification programs as an alternative to traditional educator preparation programs. The rules may not provide that a person may be certified under this section only if there is a demonstrated shortage of educators in a school district or subject area.

Texas Education Code, §21.0491, Probationary and Standard Trade and Industrial Workforce Training Certificates:

- (a) To provide a continuing additional source of teachers to provide workforce training, the board shall establish a probationary trade and industrial workforce training certificate and a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate that may be obtained through an abbreviated educator preparation program under Section 21.0442.
- (b) To be eligible for a probationary certificate under this section, a person must:
 - (1) satisfactorily complete the course work for that certificate in an educator preparation program under Section 21.0442; and
 - (2) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the board.
- (c) To be eligible for a standard certificate under this section, a person must:
 - (1) hold a probationary certificate issued under this section;
 - (2) be employed by:
 - (A) a public or private primary or secondary school; or
 - (B) an institution of higher education or an independent or private institution of higher education as those terms are defined by Section 61.003; and
 - (3) perform satisfactorily on a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate examination prescribed by the board.
- (d) The limitation imposed by Section 21.048(a-1) on the number of administrations of an examination does not apply to the administration of the standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate examination prescribed by the board.
- (e) Notwithstanding any other law, the board may administer the standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate examination to a person who satisfies the requirements of Subsections (c)(1) and (2).
- (f) The board shall propose rules to:
 - (1) specify the term of a probationary certificate and a standard certificate issued under this section; and
 - (2) establish the requirements for renewal of a standard certificate.

Texas Education Code, §21.050, Academic Degree Required for Teaching Certificate; Internship (excerpts):

- (a) A person who applies for a teaching certificate for which board rules require a bachelor's degree must possess a bachelor's degree received with an academic major or interdisciplinary academic major, including reading, other than education, that is related to the curriculum as prescribed under Chapter 28, Subchapter A.
- (b) The board may not require more than 18 semester credit hours of education courses at the baccalaureate level for the granting of a teaching certificate. The board shall provide for a minimum number of semester credit hours of internship to be included in the hours needed for certification. The board may propose rules requiring additional credit hours for certification in bilingual education, English as a second language, early childhood education, or special education.

- (c) A person who receives a bachelor's degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under Section 54.363 may not be required to participate in any field experience or internship consisting of student teaching to receive a teaching certificate.

Texas Education Code, §21.051, Rules Regarding Field-Based Experience and Options for Field Experience and Internships, as amended by HB 159 and SB 1590, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021:

- (a) In this section, "teacher of record" means a person employed by a school district who teaches the majority of the instructional day in an academic instructional setting and is responsible for evaluating student achievement and assigning grades.
- (b) Before a school district may employ a candidate for certification as a teacher of record and, except as provided by Subsection (b-1), after the candidate's admission to an educator preparation program, the candidate must complete at least 15 hours of field-based experience in which the candidate is actively engaged in instructional or educational activities involving a diverse student population that, to the greatest extent practicable, includes students with disabilities under supervision at:
- (1) a public school campus accredited or approved for the purpose by the agency; or
 - (2) a private school recognized or approved for the purpose by the agency.
- (b-1) A candidate may satisfy up to 15 hours of the field-based experience requirement under Subsection (b) by serving as a long-term substitute teacher as prescribed by board rule. Experience under this subsection may occur after the candidate's admission to an educator preparation program or during the two years before the date the candidate is admitted to the program. The candidate's experience in instructional or educational activities must be documented by the educator preparation program and must be obtained at:
- (1) a public school campus accredited or approved for the purpose by the agency; or
 - (2) a private school recognized or approved for the purpose by the agency.
- (c) Subsection (b) applies only to an initial certification issued on or after September 1, 2012. Subsection (b) does not affect:
- (1) the validity of a certification issued before September 1, 2012; or
 - (2) the eligibility of a person who holds a certification issued before September 1, 2012, to obtain a subsequent renewal of the certification in accordance with board rule.
- (d) Subsection (b) does not affect the period within which an individual must complete field-based experience hours as determined by board rule if the individual is not accepted into an educator preparation program before the deadline prescribed by board rule and is hired for a teaching assignment by a school district after the deadline prescribed by board rule.
- (e) The board shall propose rules relating to the field-based experience required by Subsection (b). The commissioner by rule shall adopt procedures and standards for recognizing a private school under Subsection (b)(2).
- (f) The board shall propose rules providing flexible options for persons for any field-based experience or internship required for certification, including options for candidate observations that provide for at least:

- (1) two observations to occur in person and two additional observations to occur in virtual settings that are equivalent in rigor to in-person options for observation; or
- (2) three observations to occur in person.

The options must, to the greatest extent practicable, involve interaction with a diverse student population, including students with disabilities.

Texas Education Code, §21.052, Certification of Educators from Outside the State, as amended and added by HB 139, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021 (excerpt):

- (b-1) The board shall propose rules in accordance with Chapter 55, Occupations Code, to establish procedures to expedite the processing of an application for a certificate under this section submitted by an educator who is a military veteran or military [the] spouse [of a person who is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States], including rules for providing a permanent change of station order for purposes of establishing residency and for providing a military identification card [the appropriate documentation to establish the educator's status as a spouse of a person who is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States].
- (c) The board may issue a temporary certificate under this section to an educator who holds a degree required by Subsection (a)(1) and a certificate or other credential required by Subsection (a)(2) but who has not satisfied the requirements prescribed by Subsection (a)(3). Subject to Subsections (d) and (d-1), the board may specify the term of a temporary certificate issued under this subsection.
- (d-1) A temporary certificate issued under Subsection (c) to an educator who is the spouse of a person who is serving on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States may not expire before the third anniversary of the date on which the board completes the review of the educator's credentials and informs the educator of the examination or examinations under Section 21.048 on which the educator must perform satisfactorily to receive a standard certificate.
- (f) The board shall post on the board's Internet website the procedures for obtaining a certificate under Subsection (a) and the notice required under Section 55.010, Occupations Code.
- (i) In this section:
 - (1) "Active duty" means current full-time military service in the armed forces of the United States or active duty military service as a member of the Texas military forces, as defined by Section 437.001, Government Code, or similar military service of another state.
 - (2) "Armed forces of the United States" means the army, navy, air force, space force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States or a reserve unit of one of those branches of the armed forces.
 - (3) "Military service member" means a person who is on active duty.
 - (4) "Military spouse" means a person who is married to a military service member.
 - (5) "Military veteran" means a person who has served on active duty and who was discharged or released from active duty.

Texas Occupations Code, §55.007, License Eligibility Requirements for Applicants with Military Experience:

- (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a state agency that issues a license shall, with respect to an applicant who is a military service member or military veteran, credit verified military service, training, or education toward the licensing requirements, other than an examination requirement, for a license issued by the state agency.
- (b) The state agency shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.
- (c) Rules adopted under this section may not apply to an applicant who:
 - (1) holds a restricted license issued by another jurisdiction; or
 - (2) has an unacceptable criminal history according to the law applicable to the state agency.

ATTACHMENT II
Text of Proposed Amendments to**19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, §§228.2, Definitions, 228.10, Approval Process, 228.30, Educator Preparation Curriculum, 228.35, Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training****§228.2. Definitions.**

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

- (1) Academic year--If not referring to the academic year of a particular public, private, or charter school or institution of higher education, September 1 through August 31.
- (2) Accredited institution of higher education--An institution of higher education that, at the time it conferred the degree, was accredited or otherwise approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
- (3) Alternative certification program--An approved educator preparation program, delivered by entities described in §228.20(a) of this title (relating to Governance of Educator Preparation Programs), specifically designed as an alternative to a traditional undergraduate certification program, for individuals already holding at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education.
- (4) Benchmarks--A record similar to a transcript for each candidate enrolled in an educator preparation program documenting the completion of admission, program, certification, and other requirements.
- (5) Campus supervisor--A school administrator or designee responsible for the annual performance appraisal of an intern.
- (6) Candidate--An individual who has been formally or contingently admitted into an educator preparation program; also referred to as an enrollee or participant.
- (7) Candidate coach--A person as defined in §228.33(b)(1)-(3) of this title (relating to Intensive Pre-Service) who participates in a minimum of four observation/feedback coaching cycles provided by program supervisors, completes a Texas Education Agency-approved observation training or has completed a minimum of 150 hours of observation/feedback training, and has current certification in the class in which supervision is provided.
- (8) Certification category--A certificate type within a certification class, as described in Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates).
- (9) Certification class--A certificate, as described in §230.33 of this title (relating to Classes of Certificates), that has defined characteristics; may contain one or more certification categories, as described in Chapter 233 of this title.
- (10) Classroom teacher--An educator who is employed by a school or district and who, not less than an average of four hours each day, teaches in an academic instructional setting or a career and technical instructional setting. This term does not include an educational aide or a full-time administrator.
- (11) Clinical teaching--A supervised educator assignment through an educator preparation program at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that may lead to completion of a standard certificate; also referred to as student teaching.
- (12) Clock-hours--The actual number of hours of coursework or training provided; for purposes of calculating the training and coursework required by this chapter, one semester credit hour at an accredited institution of higher education is equivalent to 15 clock-hours. Clock-hours of field-

- based experiences, clinical teaching, internship, and practicum are actual hours spent in the required educational activities and experiences.
- (13) Contingency admission--Admission as described in §227.15 of this title (relating to Contingency Admission).
 - (14) Cooperating teacher--For a clinical teacher candidate, an educator who is collaboratively assigned by the educator preparation program (EPP) and campus administrator; who has at least three years of teaching experience; who is an accomplished educator as shown by student learning; who has completed cooperating teacher training, including training in how to coach and mentor teacher candidates, by the EPP within three weeks of being assigned to a clinical teacher; who is currently certified in the certification category for the clinical teaching assignment for which the clinical teacher candidate is seeking certification; who guides, assists, and supports the candidate during the candidate's clinical teaching in areas such as planning, classroom management, instruction, assessment, working with parents, obtaining materials, district policies; and who reports the candidate's progress to that candidate's field supervisor.
 - (15) Educator preparation program--An entity that must be approved by the State Board for Educator Certification to recommend candidates in one or more educator certification classes.
 - (16) Entity--The legal entity that is approved to deliver an educator preparation program.
 - (17) Field-based experiences--Introductory experiences for a classroom teacher certification candidate involving, at the minimum, reflective observation of Early Childhood-Grade 12 students, teachers, and faculty/staff members engaging in educational activities in a school setting.
 - (18) Field supervisor--A currently certified educator, hired by the educator preparation program, who preferably has advanced credentials, to observe candidates, monitor their performance, and provide constructive feedback to improve their effectiveness as educators. A field supervisor shall have at least three years of experience and current certification in the class in which supervision is provided. A field supervisor shall be an accomplished educator as shown by student learning. A field supervisor with experience as a campus-level administrator and who holds a current certificate that is appropriate for a principal assignment may also supervise classroom teacher, master teacher, and reading specialist candidates. A field supervisor with experience as a district-level administrator and who holds a current certificate that is appropriate for a superintendent assignment may also supervise principal candidates. If an individual is not currently certified, an individual must hold at least a master's degree in the academic area or field related to the certification class for which supervision is being provided and comply with the same number, content, and type of continuing professional education requirements described in §232.11 of this title (relating to Number and Content of Required Continuing Professional Education Hours), §232.13 of this title (relating to Number of Required Continuing Professional Education Hours by Classes of Certificates), and §232.15 of this title (relating to Types of Acceptable Continuing Professional Education Activities). A field supervisor shall not be employed by the same school where the candidate being supervised is completing his or her clinical teaching, internship, or practicum. A mentor, cooperating teacher, or site supervisor, assigned as required by §228.35(f) of this title (relating to Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training), may not also serve as a candidate's field supervisor.
 - (19) Formal admission--Admission as described in §227.17 of this title (relating to Formal Admission).
 - (20) Head Start Program--The federal program established under the Head Start Act (42 United States Code, §9801 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments.
 - (21) Initial certification--The first Texas certificate in a class of certificate issued to an individual based on participation in an approved educator preparation program.
 - (22) Intensive Pre-Service--An educator assignment supervised by an educator preparation program accredited and approved by the State Board for Educator Certification prior to a candidate meeting the requirements for issuance of intern and probationary certificates.

- (23) Intern certificate--A type of certificate as specified in §230.36 of this title (relating to Intern Certificates) that is issued to a candidate who has passed all required content pedagogy certification examinations and is completing initial requirements for certification through an approved educator preparation program.
- (24) Internship--A paid supervised classroom teacher assignment for one full school year at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that may lead to completion of a standard certificate.
- (25) Late hire--An individual who has not been accepted into an educator preparation program before the 45th day before the first day of instruction and who is hired for a teaching assignment by a school after the 45th day before the first day of instruction or after the school's academic year has begun.
- (26) Mentor--For an internship candidate, an educator who is collaboratively assigned by the campus administrator and the educator preparation program (EPP); who has at least three years of teaching experience; who is an accomplished educator as shown by student learning; who has completed mentor training, including training in how to coach and mentor teacher candidates, by an EPP within three weeks of being assigned to the intern; who is currently certified in the certification category in which the internship candidate is seeking certification; who guides, assists, and supports the candidate during the internship in areas such as planning, classroom management, instruction, assessment, working with parents, obtaining materials, district policies; and who reports the candidate's progress to that candidate's field supervisor.
- (27) Pedagogy--The art and science of teaching, incorporating instructional methods that are developed from scientifically-based research.
- (28) Post-baccalaureate program--An educator preparation program, delivered by an accredited institution of higher education and approved by the State Board for Educator Certification to recommend candidates for certification, that is designed for individuals who already hold at least a bachelor's degree and are seeking an additional degree.
- (29) Practicum--A supervised educator assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that is in a school setting in the particular class for which a certificate in a class other than classroom teacher is sought.
- (30) Probationary certificate--A type of certificate as specified in §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates) that is issued to a candidate who has passed all required certification examinations and is completing requirements for certification through an approved educator preparation program.
- (31) School day--If not referring to the school day of a particular public or private school, a school day shall be at least seven hours (420 minutes) each day, including intermissions and recesses.
- (32) School year--If not referring to the school year of a particular public or private school, a school year shall provide at least 180 days (75,600 minutes) of instruction for students.
- (33) Site supervisor--For a practicum candidate, an educator who has at least three years of experience in the aspect(s) of the certification class being pursued by the candidate; who is collaboratively assigned by the campus or district administrator and the educator preparation program (EPP); who is currently certified in the certification class in which the practicum candidate is seeking certification; who has completed training by the EPP, including training in how to coach and mentor candidates, within three weeks of being assigned to a practicum candidate; who is an accomplished educator as shown by student learning; who guides, assists, and supports the candidate during the practicum; and who reports the candidate's progress to the candidate's field supervisor.
- (34) Students with disabilities—A student who is eligible to participate in a school district’s special education program under Section 29.003, is covered by Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973

(29 U.S.C. Section 794), or is covered by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.).

(35) [~~(34)~~] Texas Education Agency staff--Staff of the Texas Education Agency assigned by the commissioner of education to perform the State Board for Educator Certification's administrative functions and services.

(36) [~~(35)~~] Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)--The kindergarten-Grade 12 state curriculum in Texas adopted by the State Board of Education and used as the foundation of all state certification examinations.

§228.10. Approval Process.

- (a) New entity approval. An entity seeking initial approval to deliver an educator preparation program (EPP) shall submit an application and proposal with evidence indicating the ability to comply with the provisions of this chapter, Chapter 227 of this title (relating to Provisions for Educator Preparation Candidates), Chapter 229 of this title (relating to Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs), and Chapter 230 of this title (relating to Professional Educator Preparation and Certification). The proposal will be reviewed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff and a pre-approval site visit will be conducted. The TEA staff shall recommend to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) whether the entity should be approved. A post-approval site visit will be conducted after the first year of the EPP's operation.
- (1) The proposal shall include the following program approval components:
- (A) ownership and governance of the EPP;
 - (B) criteria for admission to the EPP;
 - (C) EPP curriculum;
 - (D) EPP coursework and/or training, including ongoing support during clinical teaching, internship, and practicum experiences;
 - (E) certification procedures;
 - (F) assessment and evaluation of candidates for certification and EPP improvement;
 - (G) professional conduct of EPP staff and candidates;
 - (H) EPP complaint procedures; and
 - (I) required submissions of information, surveys, and other accountability data; and []
 - (J) as required under Texas Education Code, §21.0443(b)(1) and (2), proactive instructional planning techniques throughout the course work for candidates and across content areas, and inclusive practices for all students including students with disabilities.
- (2) The proposal shall also include identification of the classes and categories of certificates proposed to be offered by the entity.
- (b) Continuing entity approval. An entity approved by the SBEC under this chapter shall be reviewed at least once every five years; however, a review may be conducted at any time at the discretion of the TEA staff.
- (1) At the time of the review, the entity shall submit to the TEA staff a status report regarding its compliance with existing standards and requirements for EPPs. An EPP is responsible for establishing procedures and practices sufficient to ensure the security of information against unauthorized or accidental access, disclosure, modification, destruction, or misuse prior to the expiration of the retention period. Evidence of compliance is described in the figure provided in this paragraph.
- Figure: 19 TAC §228.10(b)(1)
- (2) Unless specified otherwise, the entity must retain evidence of compliance described in the figure in paragraph (1) of this subsection for a period of five years.

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- (3) TEA staff shall, at the minimum, use the following risk factors to determine the need for discretionary reviews and the type of five-year reviews:
- (A) a history of the program's compliance with state law and board rules, standards, and procedures, with consideration given to:
 - (i) the seriousness of any violation of a rule, standard, or procedure;
 - (ii) whether the violation resulted in an action being taken against the program;
 - (iii) whether the violation was promptly remedied by the program;
 - (iv) the number of alleged violations; and
 - (v) any other matter considered to be appropriate in evaluating the program's compliance history;
 - (B) whether the program meets the accountability standards under Texas Education Code, §21.045; and
 - (C) whether a program is accredited by other organizations.
- (c) Approval of clinical teaching for an alternative certification program. An alternative certification program seeking approval to implement a clinical teaching component shall submit a description of the following elements of the program for approval by the TEA staff on an application in a form developed by the TEA staff that shall include, at a minimum:
- (1) general clinical teaching program description, including conditions under which clinical teaching may be implemented;
 - (2) selection criteria for clinical teachers;
 - (3) selection criteria for cooperating teachers;
 - (4) description of support and communication between candidates, cooperating teachers, and the alternative certification program;
 - (5) description of program supervision; and
 - (6) description of how candidates are evaluated.
- (d) Addition of certificate categories and classes.
- (1) An EPP that is rated "accredited," as provided in §229.4 of this title (relating to Determination of Accreditation Status), may request additional certificate categories be approved by TEA staff, by submitting an application in a form developed by the TEA staff that shall include, at a minimum, the curriculum matrix; a description of how the standards for Texas educators are incorporated into the EPP; and documentation showing that the program has the staff knowledge and expertise to support individuals participating in each certification category being requested. The curriculum matrix must include the standards, framework competencies, applicable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, course and/or module names, and the benchmarks or assessments used to measure successful program progress.
 - (2) An EPP rated "accredited" and currently approved to offer a certificate for which the SBEC is changing the grade level of the certificate may request to offer the preapproved category at different grade levels by submitting an application in a form developed by the TEA staff that shall include, at a minimum, a modified curriculum matrix that includes the standards, course and/or module names, and the benchmarks or assessments used to measure successful program progress. The requested additional certificate categories must be within the classes of certificates for which the EPP has been previously approved by the SBEC.
 - (3) An EPP that is not rated "accredited" may not apply to offer additional certificate categories or classes of certificates.

- (4) An EPP that is rated "accredited" may request the addition of a certificate class that has not been previously approved by the SBEC, but must present a full proposal on an application in a form developed by the TEA staff for consideration and approval by the SBEC.
- (e) Addition of program locations. An EPP that is rated "accredited," may open additional locations, provided the program informs the SBEC of any additional locations at which the program is providing educator preparation 60 days prior to providing educator preparation at the location. Additional program locations must operate in accordance with the program components under which the program has been approved to operate.
- (f) Contingency of approval. Approval of an EPP by the SBEC, including each specific certificate class and category, is contingent upon approval by other lawfully established governing bodies such as the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, boards of regents, or school district boards of trustees. Continuing EPP approval is contingent upon compliance with superseding state and federal law.
- (g) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section, a program that is approved to offer certificates that the SBEC has replaced with new certificates, which require a science of teaching reading assessment, may be approved to offer the certificates by submitting on or before December 1, 2020, a request to offer the new certificates in a form developed by the TEA staff. This request must include at a minimum an attestation signed by the program's legal authority of the program's intent to modify its curriculum by January 1, 2021, as necessary to prepare candidates for the new certificate. Programs may be approved to offer the new certificates only for the route(s) for which they are approved to offer the existing certificates. A program that does not file a request for approval to offer the new certificates on or before December 1, 2020, may apply for authorization using the process described in subsection (d) of this section. The eligible certificates are as follows:
- (1) a program approved to offer Core Subjects: Early Childhood-6 may request to offer Core Subjects with Science of Teaching Reading: Early Childhood-6;
 - (2) a program approved to offer Core Subjects: Grades 4-8 may request to offer Core Subjects with Science of Teaching Reading: Grades 4-8;
 - (3) a program approved to offer English Language Arts and Reading: Grades 4-8 may request to offer English Language Arts and Reading with Science of Teaching Reading: Grades 4-8; and
 - (4) a program approved to offer English Language Arts and Reading/Social Studies: Grades 4-8 may request to offer English Language Arts and Reading/Social Studies with Science of Teaching Reading: Grades 4-8.

§228.30. Educator Preparation Curriculum.

- (a) The educator standards adopted by the State Board for Educator Certification shall be the curricular basis for all educator preparation and, for each certificate, address the relevant Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).
- (b) The curriculum for each educator preparation program shall rely on scientifically-based research to ensure educator effectiveness.
- (c) The following subject matter shall be included in the curriculum for candidates seeking initial certification in any certification class:
- (1) the code of ethics and standard practices for Texas educators, pursuant to Chapter 247 of this title (relating to Educators' Code of Ethics), which include:
 - (A) professional ethical conduct, practices, and performance;
 - (B) ethical conduct toward professional colleagues; and
 - (C) ethical conduct toward students;
 - (2) instruction in detection and education of students with dyslexia, as indicated in the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.044(b);

- (3) instruction regarding mental health, substance abuse, and youth suicide, as indicated in the TEC, §21.044(c-1). Instruction acquired from the list of recommended best practice-based programs or from an accredited institution of higher education or an alternative certification program as part of a degree plan shall be implemented as required by the provider of the best practice-based program or research-based practice;
- (4) the skills that educators are required to possess, the responsibilities that educators are required to accept, and the high expectations for students in this state;
- (5) the importance of building strong classroom management skills;
- (6) the framework in this state for teacher and principal evaluation;
- (7) appropriate relationships, boundaries, and communications between educators and students; ~~and~~
- (8) instruction in digital learning, virtual instruction, and virtual learning, as defined in TEC, §21.001, including a digital literacy evaluation followed by a prescribed digital learning curriculum. The instruction required must:
 - (A) be aligned with the latest version of the International Society for Technology in Education's (ISTE) standards as appears on the ISTE website;
 - (B) provide effective, evidence-based strategies to determine a person's degree of digital literacy; and
 - (C) include resources to address any deficiencies identified by the digital literacy evaluation; and [-]
- ~~(9) instruction regarding students with disabilities, the use of proactive instructional planning techniques, and evidence-based inclusive instructional practices, as required under Texas Education Code, §21.044(a-1).~~
- (d) The following subject matter shall be included in the curriculum for candidates seeking initial certification in the classroom teacher certification class:
 - (1) the relevant TEKS, including the English Language Proficiency Standards;
 - (2) reading instruction, including instruction that improves students' content-area literacy;
 - (3) for certificates that include early childhood and prekindergarten, the Prekindergarten Guidelines; and
 - (4) the skills and competencies as prescribed in Chapter 235 of this title (relating to Classroom Teacher Certification Standards) and captured in the Texas teacher standards in Chapter 149, Subchapter AA, of this title (relating to Teacher Standards).
- (e) For candidates seeking certification in the principal certification class, the curriculum shall include the skills and competencies as prescribed in Chapter 241 of this title (relating to Certification as Principal) and captured in the Texas administrator standards, as indicated in Chapter 149, Subchapter BB, of this title (relating to Administrator Standards).
- (f) The following educator content standards from Chapter 235 of this title shall be included in the curriculum for candidates who hold a valid standard, provisional, or one-year classroom teacher certificate specified in §230.31 of this title (relating to Types of Certificates) in a certificate category that allows the candidates who are seeking the Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 certificate to teach all subjects in Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, or Grade 3:
 - (1) Child Development provisions of the Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 Content Standards;
 - (2) Early Childhood-Grade 3 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities Standards; and
 - (3) Science of Teaching Reading Standards.

§228.35. Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training.

- (a) Coursework and/or training for candidates seeking initial certification in any certification class.
- (1) An educator preparation program (EPP) shall provide coursework and/or training to adequately prepare candidates for educator certification and ensure the educator is effective in the classroom.
 - (2) Coursework and/or training shall be sustained, rigorous, intensive, interactive, candidate-focused, and performance-based.
 - (3) All coursework and/or training shall be completed prior to EPP completion and standard certification.
 - (4) With appropriate documentation such as certificate of attendance, sign-in sheet, or other written school district verification, 50 clock-hours of training may be provided by a school district and/or campus that is an approved Texas Education Agency (TEA) continuing professional education provider to a candidate who is considered a late hire. The training provided by the school district and/or campus must meet the criteria described in the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.451 (Staff Development Requirements) and must be directly related to the certificate being sought.
 - (5) Each EPP must develop and implement specific criteria and procedures that allow:
 - (A) military service member or military veteran candidates to credit verified military service, training, clinical and professional experience, or education toward the training, education, work experience, or related requirements (other than certification examinations) for educator certification requirements, provided that the military service, training, or education is directly related to the certificate being sought; and
 - (B) candidates who are not military service members or military veterans to substitute prior or ongoing service, training, or education, provided that the experience, education, or training is not also counted as a part of the internship, clinical teaching, or practicum requirements, was provided by an approved EPP or an accredited institution of higher education within the past five years, and is directly related to the certificate being sought.
 - (6) Coursework and training that is offered online must meet, or the EPP must be making progress toward meeting, criteria set for accreditation, quality assurance, and/or compliance with one or more of the following:
 - (A) Accreditation or Certification by the Distance Education Accrediting Commission;
 - (B) Program Design and Teaching Support Certification by Quality Matters;
 - (C) Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter P, of this title (relating to Approval of Distance Education Courses and Programs for Public Institutions); or
 - (D) Part 1, Chapter 7 of this title (relating to Degree Granting Colleges and Universities Other than Texas Public Institutions).
- (b) Coursework and/or training for candidates seeking initial certification in the classroom teacher certification class. An EPP shall provide each candidate with a minimum of 300 clock-hours of coursework and/or training. An EPP shall provide a minimum of 200 clock-hours of coursework and/or training for a candidate seeking a Trade and Industrial Workforce Training certificate as specified by §233.14(e) of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area)). Unless a candidate qualifies as a late hire, a candidate shall complete the following prior to any clinical teaching or internship:
- (1) a minimum of 30 clock-hours of field-based experience. Up to 15 clock-hours of this field-based experience may be provided by use of electronic transmission or other video or technology-based method; and
 - (2) 150 clock-hours of coursework and/or training as prescribed in §228.30(d)(4) of this title (relating to Educator Preparation Curriculum) that allows candidates to demonstrate proficiency in:

- (A) designing clear, well-organized, sequential, engaging, and flexible lessons that reflect best practice, align with standards and related content, are appropriate for diverse learners and encourage higher-order thinking, persistence, and achievement;
 - (B) formally and informally collecting, analyzing, and using student progress data to inform instruction and make needed lesson adjustments;
 - (C) ensuring high levels of learning, social-emotional development, and achievement for all students through knowledge of students, proven practices, and differentiated instruction;
 - (D) clearly and accurately communicating to support persistence, deeper learning, and effective effort;
 - (E) organizing a safe, accessible, and efficient classroom;
 - (F) establishing, communicating, and maintaining clear expectations for student behavior;
 - (G) leading a mutually respectful and collaborative class of actively engaged learners;
 - (H) meeting expectations for attendance, professional appearance, decorum, procedural, ethical, legal, and statutory responsibilities;
 - (I) reflect on his or her practice; and
 - (J) effectively communicating with students, families, colleagues, and community members.
- (c) Coursework and/or training for candidates seeking initial certification in a certification class other than classroom teacher. An EPP shall provide coursework and/or training to ensure that the educator is effective in the assignment. An EPP shall provide a candidate with a minimum of 200 clock-hours of coursework and/or training that is directly aligned to the educator standards for the applicable certification class.
- (d) Late hire provisions. A late hire for a school district teaching position may begin employment under an intern or probationary certificate before completing the pre-internship requirements of subsection (b) of this section, but shall complete these requirements within 90 school days of assignment.
- (e) Educator preparation program delivery. An EPP shall provide evidence of ongoing and relevant field-based experiences throughout the EPP in a variety of educational settings with diverse student populations, including observation, modeling, and demonstration of effective practices to improve student learning.
- (1) For initial certification in the classroom teacher certification class, each EPP shall provide field-based experiences, as defined in §228.2 of this title (relating to Definitions), for a minimum of 30 clock-hours. The field-based experiences must be completed prior to assignment in an internship or clinical teaching.
- (A) Field-based experiences must include 15 clock-hours in which the candidate, under the direction of the EPP, is actively engaged in instructional or educational activities that include:
 - (i) authentic school settings in a public school accredited by the TEA or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose;
 - (ii) instruction by content certified teachers;
 - (iii) actual students in classrooms/instructional settings with identity-proof provisions;
 - (iv) content or grade-level specific classrooms/instructional settings; and
 - (v) written reflection of the observation.
 - (B) Up to 15 clock-hours of field-based experience may be provided by use of electronic transmission or other video or technology-based method. Field-based experience provided by use of electronic transmission or other video or technology-based method must include:
 - (i) direction of the EPP;

- (ii) authentic school settings in an accredited public or private school;
 - (iii) instruction by content certified teachers;
 - (iv) actual students in classrooms/instructional settings with identity-proof provisions;
 - (v) content or grade-level specific classrooms/instructional settings; and
 - (vi) written reflection of the observation.
- (C) Up to 15 clock-hours of field-based experience may be satisfied by serving as a long-term substitute. A long-term substitute is an individual who has been hired by a school or district to work at least 30 consecutive days in an assignment as a classroom teacher. Experience may occur after the candidate's admission to an EPP or during the two years before the date the candidate is admitted to the EPP. The candidate's experience in instructional or educational activities must be documented by the EPP and must be obtained at a public or private school accredited or approved for the purpose by the TEA.
- (2) For initial certification in the classroom teacher certification class, each EPP shall also provide at least one of the following.
- (A) Clinical Teaching. A candidate must have a clinical teaching assignment for each subject area in which the candidate is seeking initial certification.
- (i) For a candidate seeking initial certification in only one subject area, the following provisions apply.
 - (I) Clinical teaching must meet one of the following requirements:
 - (-a-) a minimum of 14 weeks (no fewer than 70 full days), with a full day being 100% of the school day; or
 - (-b-) a minimum of 28 weeks (no fewer than 140 half days), with a half day being 50% of the school day.
 - (II) A clinical teaching assignment as described in subclause (I)(-a-) of this clause shall not be less than an average of four hours each day in the subject area and grade level of certification sought. The average includes intermissions and recesses but does not include conference and duty-free lunch periods.
 - (ii) For a candidate seeking initial certification in more than one subject area, the primary teaching assignment must meet the requirements of clause (i)(I)(-a-) of this subparagraph. Additional clinical teaching assignments in other subject areas may be less than an average of four hours each day during the 14 weeks of clinical teaching if:
 - (I) the primary assignment is not less than an average of four hours each day in the subject area and grade level of certification sought;
 - (II) the EPP is approved to offer preparation in the certification category required for the additional assignment;
 - (III) the EPP provides ongoing support for each assignment as prescribed in subsection (g) of this section;
 - (IV) the EPP provides coursework and training for each assignment to adequately prepare the candidate to be effective in the classroom; and
 - (V) the campus administrator agrees to assign a qualified cooperating teacher appropriate to each assignment.
 - (iii) Clinical teaching is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor and

- cooperating teacher recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher.
- (iv) An EPP may permit a full day clinical teaching assignment up to 5 full days fewer than the minimum and a half day clinical teaching assignment up to 10 half days fewer than the minimum if due to maternity leave, military leave, illness, or bereavement.
- (B) Internship. An internship must be for a minimum of one full school year for the classroom teacher assignment or assignments that match the certification category or categories for which the candidate is prepared by the EPP.
- (i) An EPP may permit an internship of up to 30 school days fewer than the minimum if due to maternity leave, military leave, illness, bereavement, or if the late hire date is after the first day of the school year.
- (ii) The beginning date for an internship for the purpose of field supervision is the first day of instruction with students in the school or district in which the internship takes place.
- (iii) An internship assignment shall not be less than an average of four hours each day in the subject area and grade level of certification sought. The average includes intermissions and recesses but does not include conference and duty-free lunch periods. An EPP may permit an additional internship assignment of less than an average of four hours each day if:
- (I) the primary assignment is not less than an average of four hours each day in the subject area and grade level of certification sought;
- (II) the EPP is approved to offer preparation in the certification category required for the additional assignment;
- (III) the EPP provides ongoing support for each assignment as prescribed in subsection (g) of this section;
- (IV) the EPP provides coursework and training for each assignment to adequately prepare the candidate to be effective in the classroom; and
- (V) the employing school or district notifies the candidate and the EPP in writing that an assignment of less than four hours will be required.
- (iv) A candidate must hold an intern or probationary certificate while participating in an internship. A candidate must meet the requirements and conditions, including the subject matter knowledge requirement, prescribed in §230.36 of this title (relating to Intern Certificates) and §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates) to be eligible for an intern or probationary certificate.
- (v) An EPP may recommend an additional internship if:
- (I) the EPP certifies that the first internship was not successful, the EPP has developed a plan to address any deficiencies identified by the candidate and the candidate's field supervisor, and the EPP implements the plan during the additional internship; or
- (II) the EPP certifies that the first internship was successful and that the candidate is making satisfactory progress toward completing the EPP before the end of the additional internship.

- (vi) An EPP must provide ongoing support to a candidate as described in subsection (g) of this section for the full term of the initial and any additional internship, unless, prior to the expiration of that term:
 - (I) a standard certificate is issued to the candidate during any additional internship under a probationary certificate;
 - (II) the candidate resigns, is non-renewed, or is terminated by the school or district; or
 - (III) the candidate is discharged or is released from the EPP; or
 - (IV) the candidate withdraws from the EPP; or
 - (V) the internship assignment does not meet the requirements described in this subparagraph.
 - (vii) If the candidate leaves the internship assignment for any of the reasons identified in clause (vi)(II)-(V) of this subparagraph:
 - (I) the EPP, the campus or district personnel, and the candidate must inform each other within one calendar week of the candidate's last day in the assignment; and
 - (II) TEA must receive the certificate deactivation request with all related documentation from the EPP within two calendar weeks of the candidate's last day of the assignment in a format determined by TEA.
 - (viii) The EPP must communicate the requirements in clause (vii) of this subparagraph to candidates and campus or district personnel prior to the assignment start date.
 - (ix) An internship is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor and campus supervisor recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or campus supervisor do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or campus supervisor.
 - (x) An internship for a Trade and Industrial Workforce Training certificate may be at an accredited institution of higher education if the candidate teaches not less than an average of four hours each day, including intermissions and recesses, in a dual credit career and technical instructional setting as defined by Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D of this title (relating to Dual Credit Partnerships Between Secondary Schools and Texas Public Colleges).
- (3) An EPP may request an exception to the clinical teaching option described in this subsection.
- (A) Submission of Exception Request. The request for an exception must include an alternate requirement that will adequately prepare candidates for educator certification and ensure the educator is effective in the classroom. The request for an exception must be submitted in a form developed by the TEA staff that shall include:
 - (i) the rationale and support for the alternate clinical teaching option;
 - (ii) a full description and methodology of the alternate clinical teaching option;
 - (iii) a description of the controls to maintain the delivery of equivalent, quality education; and
 - (iv) a description of the ongoing monitoring and evaluation process to ensure that EPP objectives are met.

- (B) Review, Approval, and Revocation of Exception Request.
 - (i) Exception requests will be reviewed by TEA staff, and the TEA staff shall recommend to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) whether the exception should be approved. The SBEC may:
 - (I) approve the request;
 - (II) approve the request with conditions;
 - (III) deny approval of the request; or
 - (IV) defer action on the request pending receipt of further information.
 - (ii) If the SBEC approves the request with conditions, the EPP must meet the conditions specified in the request. If the EPP does not meet the conditions, the approval is revoked.
 - (iii) If the SBEC approves the request, the EPP must submit a written report of outcomes resulting from the clinical teaching exception to the TEA by September 15 of each academic year. If the EPP does not timely submit the report, the approval is revoked.
 - (iv) If the SBEC does approve the exception or an approval is revoked, an EPP must wait at least six months from the date of the denial or revocation before submitting a new request.
- (4) Candidates participating in an internship or a clinical teaching assignment need to experience a full range of professional responsibilities that shall include the start of the school year. The start of the school year is defined as the first 15 instructional days of the school year. If these experiences cannot be provided through clinical teaching or an internship, they must be provided through field-based experiences.
- (5) An internship or clinical teaching experience for certificates that include early childhood may be completed at a Head Start Program with the following stipulations:
 - (A) a certified teacher is available as a trained mentor;
 - (B) the Head Start program is affiliated with the federal Head Start program and approved by the TEA;
 - (C) the Head Start program teaches three- and four-year-old students; and
 - (D) the state's prekindergarten curriculum guidelines are being implemented.
- (6) An internship or clinical teaching experience must take place in an actual school setting rather than a distance learning lab or virtual school setting.
- (7) An internship or clinical teaching experience shall not take place in a setting where the candidate:
 - (A) has an administrative role over the mentor or cooperating teacher; or
 - (B) is related to the field supervisor, mentor, or cooperating teacher by blood (consanguinity) within the third degree or by marriage (affinity) within the second degree.
- (8) For certification in a class other than classroom teacher, each EPP shall provide a practicum for a minimum of 160 clock-hours whereby a candidate must demonstrate proficiency in each of the educator standards for the certificate class being sought.
 - (A) A practicum experience must take place in an actual school setting rather than a distance learning lab or virtual school setting.
 - (B) A practicum may not take place exclusively during a summer recess.
 - (C) A practicum shall not take place in a setting where the candidate:
 - (i) has an administrative role over the site supervisor; or

- (ii) is related to the field supervisor or site supervisor by blood (consanguinity) within the third degree or by marriage (affinity) within the second degree.
- (D) An intern or probationary certificate may be issued to a candidate for a certification class other than classroom teacher who meets the requirements and conditions, including the subject matter knowledge requirement, prescribed in §230.36 of this title and §230.37 of this title.
 - (i) A candidate for an intern or probationary certificate in a certification class other than classroom teacher must meet all requirements established by the recommending EPP, which shall be based on the qualifications and requirements for the class of certification sought and the duties to be performed by the holder of a probationary certificate in that class.
 - (ii) An EPP may recommend an additional practicum under a probationary certificate if:
 - (I) the EPP certifies that the first practicum was not successful, the EPP has developed a plan to address any deficiencies identified by the candidate and the candidate's field supervisor, and the EPP implements the plan during the additional practicum; or
 - (II) the EPP certifies that the first practicum was successful and that the candidate is making satisfactory progress toward completing the EPP before the end of the additional practicum.
- (E) A practicum is successful when the field supervisor and the site supervisor recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or site supervisor does not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or site supervisor.
- (9) Subject to all the requirements of this section, the TEA may approve a school that is not a public school accredited by the TEA as a site for field-based experience, internship, clinical teaching, and/or practicum.
 - (A) All Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools, wherever located, and all schools accredited by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC) are approved by the TEA for purposes of field-based experience, internship, clinical teaching, and/or practicum.
 - (B) An EPP may file an application, with the appropriate fee specified in §229.9(6) of this title (relating to Fees for Educator Preparation Program Approval and Accountability), with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public school, a private school, or a school system located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for field-based experience. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum, evidence showing that the instructional standards of the school or school system align with those of the applicable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and SBEC certification standards.
 - (C) An EPP may file an application, with the appropriate fee specified in §229.9(6) of this title, with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school for a candidate's placement located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for clinical teaching or practicum required by this chapter.
 - (i) The clinical teaching or practicum site may be approved for a candidate who must complete requirements outside the state of Texas due to the following reasons if they occur following admission to the EPP:
 - (I) military assignment of candidate or spouse;

- (II) illness of candidate or family member for whom the candidate is the primary caretaker;
 - (III) candidate becomes the primary caretaker for a family member residing out of state; or
 - (IV) candidate or spouse transfer of employment.
- (ii) The application shall identify the circumstances that necessitate the request to complete clinical teaching or a practicum outside of the state of Texas and be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum:
- (I) the accreditation(s) held by the school;
 - (II) a crosswalk comparison of the alignment of the instructional standards of the school with those of the applicable TEKS and SBEC certification standards;
 - (III) the certification, credentials, and training of the field supervisor(s) who will supervise candidates in the school; and
 - (IV) the measures that will be taken by the EPP to ensure that the candidate's experience will be equivalent to that of a candidate in a Texas public school accredited by the TEA.
- (D) An EPP may file an application, with the appropriate fee specified in §229.9(6) of this title, with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school for a candidate's placement located outside the United States, as a site for clinical teaching or a practicum required by this chapter.
- (i) The site may be approved for a candidate who must complete requirements outside the United States due to the following reasons if they occur following admission to the EPP:
- (I) military assignment of candidate or spouse;
 - (II) illness of candidate or family member for whom the candidate is the primary caretaker;
 - (III) candidate becomes the primary caretaker for a family member residing out of country; or
 - (IV) candidate or spouse transfer of employment.
- (ii) The application shall identify the circumstances that necessitate the request to complete clinical teaching or a practicum outside of the United States and be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum, the same provisions required in subparagraph (C)(ii) of this paragraph for schools located within any state or territory of the United States, with the addition of a description of the on-site program personnel and program support that will be provided and a description of the school's recognition by the U.S. State Department Office of Overseas Schools.
- (f) Mentors, cooperating teachers, and site supervisors. In order to support a new educator and to increase educator retention, an EPP shall collaborate with the campus or district administrator to assign each candidate a mentor during the candidate's internship, assign a cooperating teacher during the candidate's clinical teaching experience, or assign a site supervisor during the candidate's practicum. If an individual who meets the certification category and/or experience criteria for a cooperating teacher, mentor, or site supervisor is not available, the EPP and campus or district administrator shall assign an individual who most closely meets the criteria and document the reason for selecting an individual that does not meet the criteria. The EPP is responsible for providing mentor, cooperating teacher, and/or site supervisor training that relies on scientifically-based research, but the program may allow the training to be provided by a school, district, or regional education service center if properly documented.

- (g) Ongoing educator preparation program support for initial certification of teachers. Supervision of each candidate shall be conducted with the structured guidance and regular ongoing support of an experienced educator who has been trained as a field supervisor. Supervision provided on or after September 1, 2017, must be provided by a field supervisor who has completed TEA-approved observation training. The initial contact, which may be made by telephone, email, or other electronic communication, with the assigned candidate must occur within the first three weeks of assignment. For each formal observation, whether face-to-face or virtual, the field supervisor shall participate in an individualized pre-observation conference with the candidate, document educational practices observed; provide written feedback through an individualized, synchronous, and interactive post-observation conference with the candidate; and provide a copy of the written feedback to the candidate's cooperating teacher or mentor. Neither the pre-observation conference nor the post-observation conference need to be onsite. For candidates participating in an internship, the field supervisor shall provide a copy of the written feedback to the candidate's supervising campus administrator. Formal observations by the field supervisor conducted through collaboration with school or district personnel can be used to meet the requirements of this subsection. Informal observations and coaching shall be provided by the field supervisor as appropriate. In a clinical teaching experience, the field supervisor shall collaborate with the candidate and cooperating teacher throughout the clinical teaching experience. For an internship, the field supervisor shall collaborate with the candidate, mentor, and supervising campus administrator throughout the internship.
- (1) Each formal observation must be at least 45 minutes in duration, must be conducted by the field supervisor, and must be on the candidate's site in a face-to-face setting.
 - (2) An EPP must provide the first formal observation within the first third of all clinical teaching assignments and the first six weeks of all internship assignments.
 - (3) For an internship under an intern certificate or an additional internship described in subsection (e)(2)(B)(v)(I) of this section, an EPP must provide a minimum of three formal observations during the first half of the internship and a minimum of two formal observations during the last half of the internship.
 - (4) For a first-year internship under a probationary certificate or an additional internship described in subsection (e)(2)(B)(v)(II) of this section, an EPP must provide a minimum of one formal observation during the first third of the assignment, a minimum of one formal observation during the second third of the assignment, and a minimum of one formal observation during the last third of the assignment.
 - (5) If an internship under an intern certificate or an additional internship described in subsection (e)(2)(B)(v)(I) of this section involves certification in more than one certification category that cannot be taught concurrently during the same period of the school day, an EPP must provide a minimum of three observations in each assignment. For each assignment, the EPP must provide at least two formal observations during the first half of the internship and one formal observation during the second half of the internship.
 - (6) For a first-year internship under a probationary certificate or an additional internship described in subsection (e)(2)(B)(v)(II) of this section that involves certification in more than one certification category that cannot be taught concurrently during the same period of the school day, an EPP must provide a minimum of one formal observation in each of the assignments during the first half of the assignment and a minimum of one formal observation in each assignment during the second half of the assignment.
 - (7) For a 14-week, full-day clinical teaching assignment, an EPP must provide a minimum of one formal observation during the first third of the assignment, a minimum of one formal observation during the second third of the assignment, and a minimum of one formal observation during the last third of the assignment. For an all-level clinical teaching assignment in more than one location or in an assignment that involves certification in more than one certification category that cannot be taught concurrently during the same period of the school day, a minimum of two formal observations must be provided during the first half of the assignment and a minimum of one formal observation must be provided during the second half of the assignment.

- (8) For a 28-week, half-day clinical teaching assignment or a full-day clinical teaching assignment that exceeds 14 weeks and extends beyond one semester, an EPP must provide a minimum of two formal observations during the first half of the assignment and a minimum of two formal observations during the last half of the assignment.
- (9) For the 2022-2023 academic year and following, up to one of the minimum formal face-to-face observations required in subsections (g)(3)-(8) of this section may be replaced with at least two formal virtual observations. Each formal virtual observation must be:
- (A) at least 45 minutes in length,
 - (B) conducted by the field supervisor,
 - (C) followed by a post-observation conference within 72 hours of the educational activity, and
 - (D) conducted through use of an unedited electronic transmission, video or technology-based method.
- (10) An EPP may conduct as many additional observations above the minimum formal observations required in this section as the EPP determines are necessary to meet a candidate's needs. These additional observations may be either face-to-face or virtual.
- (h) Ongoing educator preparation program support for certification in a certification class other than classroom teacher. Supervision of each candidate shall be conducted with the structured guidance and regular ongoing support of an experienced educator who has been trained as a field supervisor. Supervision provided on or after September 1, 2017, must be provided by a field supervisor who has completed TEA-approved observation training. The initial contact, which may be made by telephone, email, or other electronic communication, with the assigned candidate must occur within the first quarter of the assignment. For each formal observation, the field supervisor shall participate in an individualized pre-observation conference with the candidate; document educational practices observed; provide written feedback through an individualized, synchronous, and interactive post-observation conference with the candidate; and provide a copy of the written feedback to the candidate's site supervisor. Neither the pre-observation conference nor the post-observation conference need to be onsite. Formal observations conducted through collaboration with school or district personnel can be used to meet the requirements of this subsection. Informal observations and coaching shall be provided by the field supervisor as appropriate. The field supervisor shall collaborate with the candidate and site supervisor throughout the practicum experience.
- (1) An EPP must provide a minimum of one formal observation within the first third of the practicum, one formal observation within the second third of the practicum, and one formal observation within the final third of the practicum.
 - (2) The three required formal observations must be at least 135 minutes in duration in total throughout the practicum and must be conducted by the field supervisor.
 - (3) If a formal observation is not conducted on the candidate's site in a face-to-face setting, the formal observation may be provided by use of electronic transmission or other video or technology-based method. A formal observation that is not conducted on the candidates' site in a face-to-face setting must include a pre- and post-conference.
- (i) Coursework and/or training for candidates seeking Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 certification.
- (1) In support of the educator standards that are the curricular basis of the Early Childhood: Prekindergarten-Grade 3 certificate, an EPP shall integrate the following concepts and themes throughout the coursework and training:
 - (A) using planning and teaching practices that support student learning in early childhood, including:
 - (i) demonstrating knowledge and skills to support child development (birth-age eight) in the following areas:
 - (I) brain development;

- (II) physical development;
- (III) social-emotional learning; and
- (IV) cultural development;
- (ii) demonstrating knowledge and skills of effective, research supported, developmentally appropriate instructional approaches to support young students' learning, including, but not limited to:
 - (I) intentional instruction with clear learning goals;
 - (II) project-based learning;
 - (III) child-directed inquiry;
 - (IV) learning through play; and
 - (V) integration of knowledge across content areas;
- (iii) demonstrating knowledge and skills in implementing instruction tailored to the variability in learners' needs, including, but not limited to, small group instruction;
- (iv) demonstrating knowledge and skills in early literacy development and pedagogy, including:
 - (I) demonstrating effective ways to support language development, particularly oral language development, including, but not limited to, growth in academic vocabulary, comprehension, and inferencing abilities; and
 - (II) demonstrating effective ways to support early literacy development, including letter knowledge, phonological awareness, early writing, and decoding;
- (v) demonstrating knowledge and skills in early mathematics and science development and pedagogy;
- (vi) demonstrating knowledge and skills in developing and implementing pedagogical approaches for students who are English learners and/or bilingual; and
- (vii) demonstrating knowledge and skills in developing and implementing pedagogical approaches for students who have or are at risk for developmental delays and disabilities;
- (B) assessing the success of instruction and student learning through developmentally appropriate assessment, including:
 - (i) demonstrating knowledge of multiple forms of assessment, the information that each form of assessment can provide about a student's learning and development, and how to conceive, construct, and/or select an assessment aligned to standards that can demonstrate student learning to stakeholders;
 - (ii) demonstrating knowledge in how to use assessments to inform instruction to support student growth; and
 - (iii) demonstrating knowledge and application of children's developmental continuum in the analysis of assessment results utilizing a variety of assessment types to gain a full understanding of students' current development and assets;
- (C) creating developmentally appropriate learning environments, including:

- (i) demonstrating knowledge and skills in supporting learners' development of self-regulation and executive function (e.g., behavior, attention, goal setting, cooperation);
 - (ii) demonstrating knowledge and skills in designing, organizing, and facilitating spaces for learning, particularly small group learning, in both indoor and outdoor contexts; and
 - (iii) demonstrating knowledge and skills in developing learning environments that support English learners' development, including structures to support language development and communication;
- (D) working with families, students, and the community through:
- (i) teacher agency and teacher leadership;
 - (ii) research-based family engagement practices;
 - (iii) understanding the capabilities of students through parent and community input; and
 - (iv) the development and modeling of responsive relationships with children; and
- (E) using a diversity and equity framework, such as:
- (i) demonstrating knowledge and skills in creating early learning communities that capitalize on the cultural knowledge and strengths children bring to the classroom;
 - (ii) demonstrating knowledge and skills in creating an early learning environment that reflects the communities in which they work; and
 - (iii) demonstrating knowledge and skills in how to access the knowledge children and families bring to school.
- (2) An EPP shall provide each candidate who holds a valid standard, provisional, or one-year classroom teacher certificate specified in §230.31 of this title (relating to Types of Certificates) in a certificate category that allows the applicant to teach all subjects in Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, or Grade 3 with a minimum of 150 clock-hours of coursework and/or training that is directly aligned to the educator standards as specified in Chapter 235, Subchapter B, of this title (relating to Elementary School Certificate Standards and that is based on the concepts and themes specified in subsection (i)(1) of this section. A clinical teaching, internship, or practicum assignment is not required for completion of program requirements.
- (3) An EPP shall provide each candidate who holds a valid standard, provisional, or one year classroom teacher certificate specified in §230.31 of this title in a certificate category that does not allow the candidate to teach all subjects in Prekindergarten, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, or Grade 3 coursework and/or training as specified in subsections (a) and (b) of this section that is directly aligned to the educator standards as specified in Chapter 235, Subchapter B, of this title and that is based on the concepts and themes specified in subsection (i)(1) of this section, a clinical experience as specified in subsection (e)(2) of this section, a mentor or cooperating teacher as specified in subsection (f) of this section, and ongoing support as specified in subsection (g) of this section.
- (j) Coursework and/or training for candidates seeking a Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments (TVI) Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12 certification.
- (1) An EPP must provide a minimum of 300 hours of coursework and/or training related to the educator standards for that certificate adopted by the SBEC.
 - (2) An EPP shall provide a clinical experience of at least 350 clock-hours in a supervised educator assignment in a public school accredited by the TEA or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose. A TVI certification candidate must demonstrate proficiency in each of the educator standards for the certificate being sought during the clinical experience. A clinical experience is

successful when the field supervisor recommends to the EPP that the TVI certification candidate should be recommended for a TVI supplemental certification.

- (A) An EPP will provide guidance, assistance, and support for the TVI certification candidate by assigning a cooperating teacher and/or providing individual or group consultation. The EPP is responsible for providing training to cooperating teachers and/or consultation providers.
 - (B) An EPP will collaborate with the program coordinator for the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Statewide Mentor Program to assign a TVI mentor for the TVI certification candidate. The Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Statewide Mentor Program is responsible for providing training for all TVI mentors.
 - (C) An EPP will provide ongoing support for the TVI certification candidate. Supervision of each candidate shall be conducted with the structured guidance and regular ongoing support of an experienced educator who has been trained as a field supervisor. Supervision must be provided by a field supervisor who has completed TEA-approved observation training. The initial contact, which may be made by telephone, email, or other electronic communication, with the assigned candidate must occur within the first quarter of the assignment. For each formal observation, the field supervisor shall participate in an individualized pre-observation conference with the candidate; document educational practices observed; and provide written feedback through an individualized, synchronous, and interactive post-observation conference with the candidate. Neither the pre-observation conference nor the post-observation conference need to be onsite. Formal observations conducted through collaboration with school or district personnel can be used to meet the requirements of this subsection. Informal observations and coaching shall be provided by the field supervisor as appropriate.
 - (i) Formal observations must be at least 135 minutes in duration in total throughout the clinical experience and must be conducted by the field supervisor.
 - (ii) If a formal observation is not conducted on the candidate's site in a face-to-face setting, the formal observation may be provided by use of electronic transmission or other video or technology-based method. A formal observation that is not conducted on the candidates' site in a face-to-face setting must include a pre- and post-conference.
 - (iii) An EPP must provide a minimum of one formal observation within the first third of the clinical experience, one formal observation within the second third of the clinical experience, and one formal observation within the final third of the clinical experience.
- (k) Candidates employed as certified educational aides.
- (1) Clinical Teaching Assignment. Candidates employed as certified educational aides may satisfy their clinical teaching assignment requirements through their instructional duties.
 - (A) If an EPP permits candidates employed as certified educational aides, as defined by Chapter 230, Subchapter E, of this title (relating to Educational Aide Certificate), to satisfy the clinical teaching assignment requirements through their instructional duties, the clinical teaching assignment must be for a minimum of 490 hours (14-week equivalent).
 - (B) An EPP may permit an educational aide employed in a clinical teaching to be excused from up to 35 of the required hours due to maternity leave, military leave, or illness.
 - (C) Clinical teaching is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor and cooperating teacher recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not

recommend the candidate must provide documentation supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher.

- (2) Coursework and Training. An EPP must provide coursework and/or training as specified in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, a clinical experience as specified in subsection (e) of this section, a cooperating teacher as specified in subsection (f) of this section, and ongoing support as specified in subsection (g) of this section. An EPP must provide a minimum of one formal observation during the first third of the assignment, a minimum of one formal observation during the second third of the assignment, and a minimum of one formal observation during the last third of the assignment.
- (l) Exemptions.
 - (1) Under the TEC, §21.050(c), a candidate who receives a bachelor's degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under the TEC, §54.363, is exempt from the requirements of this chapter relating to field-based experience, internship, or clinical teaching.
 - (2) Under the TEC, §21.0487(c)(2)(B), a candidate's employment by a school or district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor before the person was enrolled in an EPP or while the person is enrolled in an EPP is exempt from any clinical teaching, internship, or field-based experience program requirement.