

## Directions

In preparation for the August 25 Task Force meeting, please review the action items below.

Due Date	Item #	Action Item
August 10	1	Complete the Improving Teacher Preparation <a href="#">breakout selection form</a> .
August 15-25*	2	Review the Improving Teacher Preparation August 25 Agenda
August 15-25*	3	Review June 2 Improving Teacher Preparation <a href="#">meeting notes</a> .
August 15-25*	4	Complete pre-reading activities

*Note: You will receive your subgroup assignment no later than **8/15**. You may wish to hold off on remaining action items until you have received your subgroup assignment so you can focus your attention on your topic.*

### Action Item #1: Improving Teacher Preparation Subgroup Interest Form

**By August 10, complete this Improving Teacher Preparation [breakout selection form](#).**

**Additional Context:** During our Improving Teacher Preparation working group time on August 25, we will have 5 topic areas to explore more deeply via 2 rounds of breakout discussion. These topics were determined by our working group’s June 2 discussions, a review of research (e.g., data presented by the Commissioner in past Task Force meetings, articles sent in advance of the June 2 meeting), and a review of online stakeholder input collected through TEA’s Teacher Vacancy Task Force website. We will try to accommodate the first and second choices of working group members, but that is not guaranteed. If we do not receive your breakout selection form by August 10, we will assign you to a subgroup so that we can ensure to get subgroup assignments emailed out by August 15.

#### Topic 1: Strengthen EPP/LEA Partnerships

- Pre-reading: [Renewing Educator Preparation: High Quality Standards for Every Preparation Pathway](#)
- Objective: Discuss current state of teacher preparation; identify policy recommendations that will strengthen EPP/district collaboration, so preparation is more closely aligned to the needs of the district and the realities of the teaching profession.

#### Topic 2: Provide consistent supports for new teachers

- Pre-reading: [Education First: Ensuring High-Quality Teacher Talent - How Strong, Bold Partnerships between School Districts and Teacher Preparation Programs are Transforming the Teacher Pipeline](#)
- Objective: Discuss the ways new teacher supports vary within districts and between districts; articulate need for consistent/across-the-state mentor teacher training and induction support and explore best practices for potential policy recommendations.

#### Topic 3: Increase quality of teacher preparation to support teacher readiness and retention

- Pre-reading: [National Council for Teacher Quality: Digging Deeper on Teacher Diversity](#)
- Objective: Share effective program design strategies that Texas EPPs have employed and consider policy recommendations for scaling those best practices, including differentiating preparation, increased focus on SpEd, ESL, and Bilingual, and increase high quality pre-service practice.

#### Topic 4: Improve alternative certification pathway, particularly for candidates in teacher-of-record roles

- Pre-reading: [Teach Plus: Teacher Recommendations for Improving Clinical Experience](#)
- Objective: Review the alternative certification teacher pathway and the range of alternative certification providers. Identify best practices in supporting intern candidates as teachers of record and consider policy recommendations to improve the alternative certification pathway.

Topic 5: Implement incentives and reduce barriers for EPPs, teacher candidates, and potential candidates

- Pre-reading: [NCTQ: How Are States Making Licensure Test Free to Aspiring Educators](#)
- Objective: Explore opportunities for financial support of teacher candidates and mentor teachers while streamlining requirements. Identify policy recommendations that reduce barriers for candidates seeking high quality preparation.

**Action Item #2: Review Improving Teacher Preparation August 25 Agenda**

By August 25, review the agenda below for the Improving Teacher Preparation working group.

- 9:15-9:35 Welcome, Debrief June Meeting
- 9:35-9:50 Review and Discuss Pre-Reading
- 11:00-11:15 Review Today’s Goals and Answer Clarifying Questions
- 11:15-12:00 Breakout Round 1
- 12:00-12:30 Lunch
- 12:30-1:00 Share Out – Round 1
- 1:00-1:45 Breakout Round 2
- 1:45-2:30 Share Out – Round 2 + Synthesis for TVTF Whole Group Updates
- 2:30-2:45 Break and Transition to Main Room

**Action Item #3: Review Improving Teacher Preparation Notes from June 2 Meeting.**

By August 25, review the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Notes.

- Link: June 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Notes: [TVTF – Improving Educator Preparation Work Group](#)

**Action Item #4: Improving Teacher Preparation Work Group Pre-Reading**

By August 25, review the pre-reading for your breakout selections and review the additional resources listed below.

- [Ensuring-High-Quality-Teacher-Talent: How Strong, Bold Partnerships between School Districts and Teacher Preparation Programs are Transforming the Teacher Pipeline](#)
- [Learning From Learners: Teacher Recommendations for Improving the Clinical Teaching Experience - Teach Plus - Leadership Opportunity](#)
- [USPREP Report: High Quality Standards for Every Teacher Prep Pathway](#)
- OPTIONAL but highly encouraged National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) Blog Posts
  - [We wouldn’t lower standards for pilot licenses—so why teachers?](#)
  - [How states are making licensure tests free to aspiring teachers](#)
  - [Digging Deeper: Which types of institutions achieve excellence and equity for aspiring teachers of color?](#)

**OPTIONAL - Action Item #5: Notes from Other Working Group Discussions on June 2**

By August 25, review the key points from panelists and presenters from the other working groups.

Other Working Group Summary Notes
<b>Strategic Staffing:</b> <a href="#">Improving Strategic Staffing Notes</a>
<b>Compensation Models:</b> <a href="#">Improving Compensation Model Notes</a>
<b>Understanding the Teacher Experience:</b> <a href="#">Understanding the Teacher Experience Notes</a>