

Recommendations from the edTPA Task Force: Department Updates and Proposed Regulations

BOARD OF REGENTS

MARCH 13, 2017

Background Information

- New and revised certification exams were required for teacher certification for those completing their program after May 2014:
 - edTPA
 - Educating All Students (EAS) exam
 - Academic Literacy Skills Test (ALST)
 - Revised Content Specialty Tests (CSTs)
- In January 2016, the Board of Regents requested that the edTPA Task Force be reconvened to review the edTPA and the other certification exams.
- Beginning in May 2016, the Task Force began their work reviewing the exams and developing recommendations.
- The Task Force reached consensus and, at the January 2017 Board of Regents meeting, the co-chairs of the edTPA Task Force presented their final recommendations.

Task Force Recommendations

- Establish a standard setting committee to recalibrate the edTPA passing score and establish a phase-in approach to raise the passing score over a period of 3-5 years
- Implement a multiple measures review process for individuals who score within one standard deviation below the passing score
- Disclosure of scorer qualifications
- A process for edTPA handbook review
- Convene a work group to review student teaching requirements
- Increase the voucher program (Regents budget request)
- Eliminate the Academic Literacy Skills Test (ALST)
- Review the Educating All Students (EAS) exam

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Review the edTPA Passing Score

- The Department will establish a standard setting committee comprised of P-12 teachers and higher education faculty to recalibrate the edTPA passing score.
- The standard setting committee will also establish a phase in schedule that will gradually increase the passing score over a period of time, as is done in several other states.*
- In addition, the edTPA Safety Net (ATS-W) will be extended until June 30, 2018, or until the new passing score is approved by the Commissioner.

*These states include: Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, Tennessee, and Washington

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Proposed edTPA Standard Setting Timeline

- February 2017: NYSED, SCALE & the testing vendor met to discuss logistics
- March 2017: Finalize all standard setting correspondence, materials, and activities
 - NYSED will invite P-12 teachers and higher education faculty
- June 2017: Conduct edTPA standard setting conference
- September 2017: New passing score

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: edTPA Multiple Measures Review Process

- Consistent with the recommendation from the Task Force, the Department is proposing an amendment to the Regulations to implement a multiple measures review process in cases where the candidate scored within one standard deviation of the passing score, and there is compelling evidence that a candidate has the knowledge, skills, and abilities to teach, but did not achieve a passing score on the edTPA.
- To be eligible for the review process, the candidate must fall within one standard deviation below the passing score established by the standard setting committee.
- The other criteria that must be met are:
 - Recommendation(s) from college/university faculty who have been responsible for program-level assessment of a teacher candidate's clinical practice.
 - Recommendation(s) from the teacher candidate's cooperating teacher(s).
 - GPA—must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher in their program area, or the substantive equivalent as determined by the Commissioner.
 - Have achieved a passing score on the other teacher certification exams.
 - Recommendations from faculty and cooperating teachers or other qualified individuals, as determined by the Department, that the teacher has the minimum knowledge, skills, and abilities in pedagogy to enter the classroom.
- The panel will consist of: two P-12 teachers, two principals, two superintendents, two higher education faculty, and one NYSED staff member

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Qualifications of Scorers

- Consistent with the edTPA Task Force recommendations, the Department will work with the testing vendor to release the qualifications of edTPA scorers through an annual report of de-identified individual level information.
- The information may include:
 - institution/organization affiliation
 - subject and grade area of expertise
 - years of experience as an educator
 - background demographics
 - length of time as an edTPA scorer

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: edTPA Handbook Review

- The Task Force has asked the Department to work with the field, SCALE, and the testing vendor to develop and implement a process to review specific edTPA handbooks.
- The process would entail a review of the claims brought forth by education professionals in a specific certification area, with possible potential outcomes of:
 - NYSED and representatives of the certification area will work with SCALE to substantively revise the applicable edTPA handbook.
 - If handbook revision is not feasible for the certification area under evaluation, the Commissioner may approve an alternative performance assessment for this area.
- NYSED has already started conversations with SCALE and the testing vendor to establish this review process.

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Review of Student Teaching Length

- The Task Force has asked the Department to convene a clinical practice work group to review the length and requirements of student teaching.
- The Department will invite members of P-12 and higher education to be part of this work group, including individuals who participated on the edTPA Task Force.
- The workgroup will review the current student teaching regulations, current practices in the field, and what is done in other states, and will make recommendations to the Board of Regents to amend and enhance the current regulations.

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Vouchers

- The Task Force recommended increasing the voucher program.
- This is included in the Regents budget request.

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Eliminating the ALST

- The Board is being presented this month with a separate emergency amendment to the Commissioner's Regulations to eliminate the requirement that students must take and pass the Academic Literacy Skills Test (ALST) to become certified, as recommended by the Task Force.

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: Review of the EAS

- The Task Force recommended that the Department work to review the Educating All Students (EAS) exam.
- As a part of this review, the Department will look at incorporating a literacy component into the assessment.
- This will potentially result in revising the assessment so that it assesses both the candidate's ability to serve a diverse student body and assesses their literacy skills through new constructed response items.
- The EAS safety net will continue until changes to the existing EAS have been implemented.

Implementation of Task Force Recommendations: EAS Review Timeline

- **March 2017:** Finalize Design of the EAS Test Framework
- **April 2017:** Framework & Prototype Review
- **June-July 2017:** Content Validation Survey
- **March-August 2017:** Item Development
- **September 2017:** Framework & Item Review Conference
- **October 2017:** Post Final Framework on NYSTCE Website
- **December 2017:** Computer-based Field Testing
- **January 2018:** Test Implementation & First Operational Administration
- **March 2018:** Marker Establishment & Standard Setting Conference
- **April 2018:** Score Release