



TENNESSEE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CANDIDATE ASSESSMENT AND LICENSURE

MICHAEL DEURLEIN, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA

- Candidate assessment requirements in TN
- October 2022 SBE meeting recommendations
- Public feedback
- February 2023 SBE meeting recommendations
- Plans for holistic review of licensure in TN
- Q+A

FACTORS INFLUENCING TEACHER CANDIDATE PREPAREDNESS



CONTENT KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENTS

OVERVIEW OF CONTENT KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENTS

- Content assessments include those developed by Educational Testing Services (ETS/Praxis), National Evaluation Series (Pearson/NES), and Alta Language Services.
- Assessments are typically developed using the same national standards used by Educator Preparation Providers (EPPs) in the design of content-specific educator preparation programs.
- Many pathways to licensure in Tennessee require that educators submit qualifying scores on content assessments. Some licensure pathways (out of state and job-embedded) do not require content assessments at all or require them only at the point of licensure renewal or advancement.

DEMONSTRATION OF CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

CURRENT POLICY

| Licensure Pathway | Requirement to Obtain License | Requirement to Renew/Advance License |
|---|--|---|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Qualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Major in the content area; or• Qualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Qualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments (if not already submitted) |

DEMONSTRATION OF CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

OCTOBER PROPOSAL

| Licensure Pathway | Requirement to Obtain License | Requirement to Renew/Advance License |
|---|--|---|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Major in the content area; orQualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments (if not already submitted)* |

* Beginning with educators submitting licensure transactions on or after **September 1, 2023**

FEEDBACK ON CONTENT ASSESSMENT PROPOSAL

- Surprisingly, very few comments focused specifically on the elimination of content assessments.
- Some EPPs expressed a desire to see this proposal expanded to include undergraduate candidates who obtain a major in a content area while also completing a teacher preparation program (note this is somewhat rare).
- EPPs expressed a concern about majors that may not be a direct correlation (such as Elementary Education, Early Childhood, and Special Education) and those that are offered through the college of education (such as Secondary History Education as opposed to History).
- Representatives from the Metropolitan Area School Systems group were generally in support of this proposal. The Tennessee Association of Colleges of Teacher Education did not provide feedback on this specific proposal.

DEMONSTRATION OF CONTENT KNOWLEDGE

FEBRUARY PROPOSAL

| Licensure Pathway | Requirement to Obtain License | Requirement to Renew/Advance License |
|---|---|---|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Major in the content area (aligned to select endorsement areas)*; orQualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Major in the content area; orQualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required specialty area content assessments; orN/A if educator has major in the content area (aligned to select endorsement areas)* |

* Beginning with educators submitting licensure transactions on or after **June 1, 2023**

PEDAGOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

OVERVIEW OF PEDAGOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

- Pedagogical assessments include those developed by Educational Testing Services (ETS/Praxis PLT) and Pearson (edTPA).
- The Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) assessment is only accepted for occupational licensure and out of state applicants who are required to take a pedagogical assessment.
- The edTPA has been a requirement in Tennessee since 2019 for those completing a TN-approved program in an academic licensure area. Many EPPs had used edTPA prior to this date as it has been accepted for licensure purposes since 2010.
- edTPA is a performance-based, subject-specific portfolio assessment, which is typically completed over the course of a semester or year, and requires coordination between the candidate, EPPs, clinical mentors, and clinical supervisors to complete and submit.

DEMONSTRATION OF PEDAGOGICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL

CURRENT POLICY

| Licensure Pathway | Requirement to Obtain License | Requirement to Renew/Advance License |
|---|---|---|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway (Student Teaching or Internship Clinical Practice) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required pedagogical assessment (edTPA or PLT if seeking occupational license) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway (Job-Embedded Clinical Practice) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required pedagogical assessment (edTPA or PLT if seeking occupational license) |

DEMONSTRATION OF PEDAGOGICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL

OCTOBER PROPOSAL

| Licensure Pathway | Requirement to Obtain License | Requirement to Renew/Advance License |
|---|---|---|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway (Student Teaching or Internship Clinical Practice) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required pedagogical assessment (edTPA or PLT if seeking occupational license) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway (Job-Embedded Clinical Practice) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required pedagogical assessment (edTPA or PLT if seeking occupational license)* |

* Beginning with educators submitting licensure transactions on or after **September 1, 2023**

FEEDBACK ON PEDAGOGICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL ASSESSMENT PROPOSAL

- We received more feedback on this proposal than on the content assessment proposal.
- The majority of individuals that provided feedback are in support of eliminating the edTPA for job-embedded candidates.
- Many of those in support of the proposal recommended an earlier implementation date; some argued to expand the proposal to include undergraduate or other post-baccalaureate program completers.
- If this proposal is approved, there is a clear need to ensure communication to current educators, districts, and EPPs is clear.

DEMONSTRATION OF PEDAGOGICAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL

FEBRUARY PROPOSAL

| Licensure Pathway | Requirement to Obtain License | Requirement to Renew/Advance License |
|---|---|---|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway (Student Teaching or Internship Clinical Practice) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required pedagogical assessment (edTPA or PLT if seeking occupational license) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway (Job-Embedded Clinical Practice) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Qualifying scores on SBE-required pedagogical assessment (edTPA or PLT if seeking occupational license)* |

* Beginning with educators submitting licensure transactions on or after **June 1, 2023**

EDTPA ANALYSIS - RETAKES

| Licensure Pathway | Percent Requiring edTPA Retake |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway (Student Teaching or Internship Clinical Practice) | 4.6% |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway (Job-Embedded Clinical Practice) | 10.3% |

LICENSURE PATHWAYS— OBSERVATION AND TVAAS OUTCOMES

| Licensure Pathway | Average first-year Observation | Average first-year TVAAS |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Traditional Undergraduate or Post-Baccalaureate Pathway (Student Teaching or Internship Clinical Practice) | 3.59 | 2.72 |
| Post-Baccalaureate Job-Embedded Pathway (Job-Embedded Clinical Practice) | 3.61 | 2.69 |

LOOKING AHEAD

Licensure “Step Back”

- In 2015, the State Board overhauled licensure rules and policies, moving from roughly 11 license types down to 3-5.
- The Board has continuously expressed a desire to maintain rigor in our licensure system, while responding to staffing shortages through increased flexibilities in this system, where appropriate.
- The licensure system in Tennessee is complex. Legislation has resulted in the creation of new license types and pathways.
- Board staff and partners are actively developing a year-long plan to:
 - Generate a clear picture of the current licensure structure in Tennessee (pathways, license types, assessments, renewal and advancement requirements);
 - Convene stakeholders to discuss strengths and weaknesses of the current system; and
 - Develop proposals for improvement of this system to support coherence and clarity, while supporting a clear vision for the purpose of professional educator licensure.
- We aim to develop these proposals ahead of the next legislative session.

QUESTIONS?



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