
Educator Preparation Policy 5.504

The Background:

All educator preparation providers (EPPs) and the specialty area programs (SAPs) that lead to licensure shall be approved by the State Board of Education (SBE). Educator Preparation Policy 5.504 provides further details of requirements for EPPs and SAPs in accordance with Educator Preparation Rule Chapter 0520-02-04.

This item presents the following revisions to the Educator Preparation Policy 5.504:

- Adds Charter Management Organizations (CMO) to primary partnership agreements and clinical experiences to align with revisions to the Educator Preparation Rule in August 2023. Revisions have been made in the policy to support the expansion of EPP and CMO partnerships.
- Adds to the provider and program reviews to include the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP).
- Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-5-5607, adds to the annual reports the results of the Department's review of EPP implementation of instruction aligned with the foundational literacy skills standards.
- Requires candidates for admission to an Instructional Leadership Preparation Program to have successfully completed an educator preparation program and hold a valid educator license rather than a valid teaching license. These revisions align with Instructional Leader License (ILL) requirements in Educator Licensure Rule 0520-02-03-.10 that require an individual to have qualifying experience as an educator to obtain an ILL and do not specify the individual must hold experience as a classroom teacher.
- Revises requirements for admission to instructional leadership preparation programs.
- Revises requirements for clinical practice sites to reflect that clinical practice sites may include Category 1, 2, or 3 non-public schools to align with the Educator Preparation Rule.
- Deletes the COVID-19 flexibility in design and modification of clinical experiences for the 2020-21 academic year.

There have been no changes to this item since first reading.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Teachers and Leaders outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring educator preparation providers are aligned to the SAP components and specialty area standards in order to best prepare teacher candidates.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.