
Educator Preparation Policy 5.504

The Background:

All educator preparation providers (EPPs) and the specialty area programs (SAPs) that lead to licensure must be approved by the State Board of Education (SBE). Educator Preparation Policy 5.504 provides further details of requirements for EPPs, including clinical experience and clinical practice requirements, 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:

Provides candidates in an internship or job-embedded clinical practice the limited flexibility to complete requirements in adjacent school years provided a) the totality of the clinical practice must be for the equivalent of one (1) full school year b) at least 100 days of the internship or job-embedded clinical practice must include direct teaching experiences and c) the EPP requests permission from the Tennessee Department of Education (the Department) for the candidate to complete the clinical practice in adjacent school years based on a case-by-case basis. Information on candidates who complete clinical practice in adjacent years must be included in the annual report referenced in this policy.

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 foster robust clinical practice settings in order to best prepare teacher candidates.

The Recommendation:

The Department recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.