

Item 17:
Review of 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs

DISCUSSION ONLY

SUMMARY: Texas Government Code, §2001.039, establishes a four-year rule review cycle for all state agency rules, including State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) rules. This item presents the review of 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs. The rules being reviewed provide requirements relating to educator preparation programs.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Statutory authority for the rule review is the Texas Government Code, §2001.039. The statutory authority for 19 TAC Chapter 228 is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.031, 21.041(b)(1) and (2), 21.044(a), 21.045(a), 21.049, 21.050(a) and (c), and 21.051.

BOARD RESPONSE: This item is presented for review and comment.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION: The SBEC last adopted the review of 19 TAC Chapter 228 in May 2008, finding that the reasons for initially adopting the rules continue to exist. The SBEC adopted 19 TAC Chapter 228 to be effective July 11, 1999. Sections 228.1, 228.10, 228.20, 228.30, 228.40, and 228.50 were last amended effective December 14, 2008. Sections 228.2, 228.35, and 228.60 were last amended effective December 26, 2010.

FUTURE ACTION EXPECTED: The review of 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, is scheduled to be presented to the SBEC for adoption at the June 2012 meeting. Any rule changes resulting from the rule review process will be presented to the SBEC for consideration at a later date.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES: The SBEC rules in 19 TAC Chapter 228 provide for rules that establish requirements for educator preparation programs. The TEC, §21.049, authorizes the SBEC to adopt rules providing for educator certification programs as an alternative to traditional educator preparation programs. The TEC, §21.031, states that the SBEC is established to oversee all aspects of the certification and continuing education of public school educators and to ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

The rules currently in effect in 19 TAC Chapter 228 are shown in Attachment II.

ANTICIPATED REVISIONS TO RULES: It is anticipated that Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff will present changes to 19 TAC Chapter 228 for discussion and action at a future meeting to clarify the rules and incorporate current SBEC policy and procedures. The TEA staff anticipate conducting a stakeholder meeting prior to presenting changes to the SBEC.

RULE REVIEW: The SBEC plans to file the notice of proposed review of 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, with the *Texas Register* following the

February 2012 SBEC meeting. The SBEC will accept comments as to whether reasons for adopting 19 TAC Chapter 228 continue to exist. The official comment period will begin with the publication of the notice of proposed review of 19 TAC Chapter 228 in the *Texas Register*.

The filing of the notice of proposed review soliciting comments as to whether the reasons for adoption continue to exist would not preclude any amendments that may be proposed at different dates through a separate rulemaking process.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT: The review of 19 TAC Chapter 228 will result in clear, minimum educator preparation program requirements that would ensure educators are prepared to positively impact the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS: None.

LOCALLY MAINTAINED PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ALTERNATIVES: None.

OTHER COMMENTS AND RELATED ISSUES: None.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: I. Statutory Citations
II. Text of 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs

ATTACHMENT I**Statutory Citations Relating to Review of 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs****Rule Review****Texas Government Code, §2001.039, Agency Review of Existing Rules:**

- (a) A state agency shall review and consider for readoption each of its rules in accordance with this section.
- (b) A state agency shall review a rule not later than the fourth anniversary of the date on which the rule takes effect and every four years after that date. The adoption of an amendment to an existing rule does not affect the dates on which the rule must be reviewed except that the effective date of an amendment is considered to be the effective date of the rule if the agency formally conducts a review of the rule in accordance with this section as part of the process of adopting the amendment.
- (c) The state agency shall readopt, readopt with amendments, or repeal a rule as the result of reviewing the rule under this section.
- (d) The procedures of this subchapter relating to the original adoption of a rule apply to the review of a rule and to the resulting repeal, readoption, or readoption with amendments of the rule, except as provided by this subsection. Publishing the Texas Administrative Code citation to a rule under review satisfies the requirements of this subchapter relating to publishing the text of the rule unless the agency readopts the rule with amendments as a result of the review.
- (e) A state agency's review of a rule must include an assessment of whether the reasons for initially adopting the rule continue to exist.

19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs**Texas Education Code, §21.031, Purpose:**

- (a) The State Board for Educator Certification is established to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board shall regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.
- (b) In proposing rules under this subchapter, the board shall ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

Texas Education Code, §21.041, Rules; Fees (excerpts):

- (b) The board shall propose rules that:
 - (1) provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of this subchapter in a manner consistent with this subchapter;
 - (2) specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates;

Texas Education Code, §21.044, Educator Preparation, as amended by Senate Bill (SB) 866 and SB 1620, 82nd Texas Legislature, 2011 (excerpt):

- (a) The board shall propose rules establishing the training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program. The board shall specify the minimum academic qualifications required for a certificate.

Texas Education Code, §21.045, Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs (excerpts):

- (a) The board shall propose rules establishing standards to govern the approval and continuing accountability of all educator preparation programs based on information that is disaggregated with respect to sex and ethnicity and that includes:
- (1) results of the certification examinations prescribed under Section 21.048(a);
 - (2) performance based on the appraisal system for beginning teachers adopted by the board;
 - (3) achievement, including improvement in achievement, of students taught by beginning teachers for the first three years following certification, to the extent practicable; and
 - (4) compliance with board requirements regarding the frequency, duration, and quality of structural guidance and ongoing support provided by field supervisors to beginning teachers during their first year in the classroom.

Texas Education Code, §21.049, Alternative Certification:

- (a) To provide a continuing additional source of qualified educators, the board shall propose rules providing for educator certification programs as an alternative to traditional educator preparation programs. The rules may not provide that a person may be certified under this section only if there is a demonstrated shortage of educators in a school district or subject area.
- (b) The board may not require a person employed as a teacher in an alternative education program under Section 37.008 or a juvenile justice alternative education program under Section 37.011 for at least three years to complete an alternative educator certification program adopted under this section before taking the appropriate certification examination.

Texas Education Code, §21.050, Academic Degree Required for Teaching Certificate; Internship, as amended by SB 32, 82nd Texas Legislature, 2011 (excerpts):

- (a) A person who applies for a teaching certificate for which board rules require a bachelor's degree must possess a bachelor's degree received with an academic major or interdisciplinary academic major, including reading, other than education, that is related to the curriculum as prescribed under Subchapter A, Chapter 28.
- (c) A person who receives a bachelor's degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under Section 54.363 [~~54.214~~] may not be required to participate in any field experience or internship consisting of student teaching to receive a teaching certificate.

Texas Education Code, §21.051, Rules Regarding Field-Based Experience and Options for Field Experience and Internships, as amended by SB 8, 82nd Texas Legislature, First Called Session, 2011:

- (a) In this section, "teacher of record" means a person employed by a school district who teaches the majority of the instructional day in an academic instructional setting and is responsible for evaluating student achievement and assigning grades.
- (b) Before a school district may employ a candidate for certification as a teacher of record, the candidate must complete at least 15 hours of field-based experience in which the candidate is actively engaged in instructional or educational activities under supervision at:
 - (1) a public school campus accredited or approved for the purpose by the agency; or
 - (2) a private school recognized or approved for the purpose by the agency.
- (c) Subsection (b) applies only to an initial certification issued on or after September 1, 2012. Subsection (b) does not affect:
 - (1) the validity of a certification issued before September 1, 2012; or
 - (2) the eligibility of a person who holds a certification issued before September 1, 2012, to obtain a subsequent renewal of the certification in accordance with board rule.
- (d) Subsection (b) does not affect the period within which an individual must complete field-based experience hours as determined by board rule if the individual is not accepted into an educator preparation program before the deadline prescribed by board rule and is hired for a teaching assignment by a school district after the deadline prescribed by board rule.
- (e) The board shall propose rules relating to the field-based experience required by Subsection (b). The commissioner by rule shall adopt procedures and standards for recognizing a private school under Subsection (b)(2).
- (f) The board shall propose rules providing flexible options for persons for any field-based [~~field~~] experience or internship required for certification.

ATTACHMENT II
Text of 19 TAC

Chapter 228. Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this Chapter 228 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.031(a); 21.044; 21.045(a); 21.050(a); and 21.051.

§228.1. General Provisions.

- (a) To ensure the highest level of educator preparation and practice, the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) recognizes that the preparation of educators must be the joint responsibility of educator preparation programs and the Early Childhood-Grade 12 public and private schools of Texas. Collaboration in the development, delivery, and evaluation of educator preparation is required.
- (b) Consistent with the Texas Education Code, §21.049, the SBEC's rules governing educator preparation are designed to promote flexibility and creativity in the design of educator preparation programs to accommodate the unique characteristics and needs of different regions of the state as well as the diverse population of potential educators.
- (c) All educator preparation programs are subject to the same standards of accountability, as required under Chapter 229 of this title (relating to Accountability System for Educator Preparation).

Source: The provisions of this §228.1 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016.

§228.2. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

- (1) Academic year--If not referring to the academic year of a particular public, private, or charter school or institution of higher education, September 1 through August 31.
- (2) Alternative certification program--An approved educator preparation program, delivered by entities described in §228.20(a) of this title (relating to Governance of Educator Preparation Programs), specifically designed as an alternative to a traditional undergraduate certification program, for individuals already holding at least a baccalaureate degree.
- (3) Candidate--A participant in an educator preparation program seeking certification.
- (4) Clinical teaching--A 12-week full-day educator assignment through an alternative certification program at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that may lead to completion of a standard certificate.
- (5) Clock-hours--The actual number of hours of coursework or training provided; for purposes of calculating the training and coursework required by this chapter, one semester credit hour at an accredited university is equivalent to 15 clock-hours. Clock-hours of field-based experiences, student teaching, clinical teaching, internship, and practicum are actual hours spent in the required educational activities and experiences.
- (6) Cooperating teacher--The campus-based mentor teacher for the student teacher or clinical teacher.
- (7) Educator preparation program--An entity approved by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to recommend candidates in one or more educator certification fields.
- (8) Entity--The legal entity that is approved to deliver an educator preparation program.
- (9) Field-based experiences--Introductory experiences for a certification candidate involving interactive and reflective observation of Early Childhood-Grade 12 students, teachers, and faculty/staff members engaging in educational activities in a school setting. Field-based experiences must reflect:

- (A) authentic school settings in a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose;
 - (B) instruction by content certified teachers;
 - (C) actual students in classrooms/instructional settings with identity proof provisions;
 - (D) content or grade level specific classrooms/instructional settings;
 - (E) variable time length of observation; and
 - (F) reflection of the observation.
- (10) Field supervisor--A certified educator, hired by the educator preparation program, who preferably has advanced credentials, to observe candidates, monitor his or her performance, and provide constructive feedback to improve his or her professional performance.
 - (11) Head Start Program--The federal program established under the Head Start Act (42 United States Code, §9801 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments.
 - (12) Internship--A one academic year (or 180 school days) supervised educator assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that may lead to completion of a standard certificate.
 - (13) Late hire--An individual who has not been accepted into an educator preparation program before June 15 and who is hired for a teaching assignment by a school after June 15 or after the school's academic year has begun.
 - (14) Mentor--For a classroom teacher, a certified educator assigned by the campus administrator who has completed mentor training; who guides, assists, and supports the beginning teacher in areas such as planning, classroom management, instruction, assessment, working with parents, obtaining materials, district policies; and who reports the beginning teacher's progress to that teacher's educator preparation program.
 - (15) Pedagogy--The art and science of teaching, incorporating instructional methods that are developed from scientifically-based research.
 - (16) Practicum--A supervised professional educator assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that is in a school setting in the particular field for which a professional certificate is sought such as superintendent, principal, school counselor, school librarian, educational diagnostician, reading specialist, and/or master teacher.
 - (17) Student teaching--A 12-week full-day teaching experience through a program provided by an accredited university at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for this purpose that may lead to completion of a standard certificate.
 - (18) Teacher of record--An educator employed by a school district who teaches the majority of the instructional day in an academic instructional setting and is responsible for evaluating student achievement and assigning grades.
 - (19) Texas Education Agency staff--Staff of the TEA assigned by the commissioner of education to perform the SBEC's administrative functions and services.
 - (20) Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)--The Kindergarten-Grade 12 state curriculum in Texas adopted by the State Board of Education and used as the foundation of all state certification examinations.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.2 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.031, 21.044, 21.045(a), 21.050(a) and (c), and 21.051.

Source: The provisions of this §228.2 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective October 12, 2003, 28 TexReg 8608; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016; amended to be effective December 26, 2010, 35 TexReg 11239.

§228.10. Approval Process.

- (a) **Approval to Operate.** A public institution of higher education must provide documentation to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) of approval to operate in Texas prior to submitting a proposal to offer an educator preparation and/or alternative certification program.
- (b) **New Entity Approval.** An entity seeking initial approval to deliver an educator preparation program shall submit an application and proposal with evidence indicating the ability to comply with the provisions of this chapter and Chapter 227 of this title (relating to Provisions for Educator Preparation Candidates). The proposal shall include the following program approval components: entity commitment to adequate preparation of certification candidates, program standards, and community collaboration; criteria for admission to an educator preparation program; curriculum; program delivery and evaluation; and a plan for ongoing support of the candidates. The proposal must also identify the certificates proposed to be offered by the entity and meet applicable federal statutes or regulations. The proposal will be reviewed by the TEA staff and a pre-approval site visit will be conducted. The TEA staff shall recommend to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) whether the entity should be approved.
- (c) **Continuing Entity Approval.** An entity approved by the SBEC under this chapter prior to September 1, 2008, shall be reviewed at least once every five years under procedures approved by the TEA staff; however, a review may be conducted at any time at the discretion of the TEA staff. At the time of the review, the entity shall submit to the SBEC a status report regarding its compliance with existing standards for educator preparation programs and the entity's original proposal. An entity approved by the SBEC under this chapter after August 31, 2008, shall be approved for a term of ten years and must reapply every ten years thereafter for approval by the SBEC in the same manner as a new educator preparation program seeking approval.
- (d) **Approval of Clinical Teaching for an Alternative Certification Program.** An alternative certification program seeking approval to implement a clinical teaching component shall submit a description of the following elements of the program for approval by the TEA staff:
 - (1) general clinical teaching program description, including conditions under which clinical teaching may be implemented;
 - (2) selection criteria for clinical teachers;
 - (3) selection criteria for mentor teachers;
 - (4) description of support and communication between candidates, mentors, and the alternative certification program;
 - (5) description of program supervision; and
 - (6) description of how candidates are evaluated.
- (e) **Addition of Certificate Fields.**
 - (1) An educator preparation program that is rated "accredited," as provided in §229.3 of this title (relating to The Accreditation Process), may request additional certificate fields be approved by TEA staff, by submitting the curriculum matrix; a description of how the standards for Texas educators are incorporated into the educator preparation program; and documentation showing that the program has the staff knowledge and expertise to support individuals participating in each certification field being requested. The curriculum matrix must include the standards, framework competencies, applicable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, course and/or module names, and the benchmarks or assessments used to measure successful program progress. An educator preparation program rated "accredited," as provided in §229.3 of this title, and currently approved to offer a content area certificate for which the SBEC is changing the grade level of the certificate may request to offer the preapproved content field at different grade levels by submitting a modified curriculum matrix that includes the standards, course and/or module names, and the benchmarks or assessments used to measure successful program progress. The requested additional certificate fields must be within the classes of certificates for which the educator preparation program has been previously approved by the SBEC. An educator preparation

program that is not rated "accredited" may not apply to offer additional certificate fields or classes of certificates.

- (2) An educator preparation program that is rated "accredited" may request the addition of certificate fields in a class of certificates that has not been previously approved by the SBEC, but must present a full proposal for consideration and approval by the SBEC.
- (f) **Addition of Program Locations.** An educator preparation program that proposes to provide educator preparation in a different geographic location from that contained in its approved proposal shall present a new proposal for consideration and approval by the SBEC that includes provisions for meeting all program requirements at the new location. The educator preparation program will be notified in writing of its proposal approval or denial within 60 days following a determination by the SBEC. If an educator preparation program has already added additional locations or is already providing educator preparation in locations different from that contained in its original approved proposal as of January 1, 2009, the additional locations are not required to be presented to or approved by the SBEC. However, the educator preparation program shall inform the SBEC of the existence of the additional locations at which the program is providing educator preparation within 60 days of the adoption of this subsection.
- (g) **Contingency of Approval.** Approval of all educator preparation programs by the SBEC or by the TEA staff, including each specific certificate field, is contingent upon approval by other lawfully established governing bodies, such as the THECB, boards of regents, or school district boards of trustees. Continuing educator preparation program approval is contingent upon compliance with superseding state and federal law.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.10 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.031(a), 21.041(b)(1) and (2), 21.044, 21.045(a), and 21.049.

Source: The provisions of this §228.10 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective October 12, 2003, 28 TexReg 8608; amended to be effective August 9, 2007, 32 TexReg 4755; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016.

§228.20. Governance of Educator Preparation Programs.

- (a) Preparation for the certification of educators may be delivered by an institution of higher education, regional education service center, public school district, or other entity approved by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) under §228.10 of this title (relating to Approval Process).
- (b) The preparation of educators shall be a collaborative effort among public schools accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and/or TEA-recognized private schools; regional education service centers; institutions of higher education; and/or business and community interests; and shall be delivered in cooperation with public schools accredited by the TEA and/or TEA-recognized private schools. An advisory committee with members representing as many as possible of the groups identified as collaborators in this subsection shall assist in the design, delivery, evaluation, and major policy decisions of the educator preparation program. The approved educator preparation program shall approve the roles and responsibilities of each member of the advisory committee and shall meet a minimum of twice during each academic year.
- (c) The governing body and chief operating officer of an entity approved to deliver educator preparation shall provide sufficient support to enable the educator preparation program to meet all standards set by the SBEC, and shall be accountable for the quality of the educator preparation program and the candidates whom the program recommends for certification.
- (d) All educator preparation programs must be implemented as approved by the SBEC as specified in §228.10 of this title. An approved educator preparation program may not expand to other geographic locations without prior approval of the SBEC.
- (e) Proposed amendments to an educator preparation program shall be submitted to the TEA staff and approved prior to implementation. Significant amendments, related to the five program approval components specified in §228.10(b) of this title, must be approved by the SBEC. The educator preparation program will be notified in writing of its proposal approval or denial within 60 days following a determination by the SBEC. If an educator preparation program has already implemented significant

amendments to its original approved proposal as of January 1, 2009, those amendments are not required to be presented to or approved by the SBEC. However, the educator preparation program shall inform the SBEC of the existence of the significant amendments within 60 days of the adoption of this subsection.

Source: The provisions of this §228.20 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016.

§228.30. Educator Preparation Curriculum.

- (a) The educator standards adopted by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) shall be the curricular basis for all educator preparation and, for each certificate, address the relevant Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).
- (b) The curriculum for each educator preparation program shall rely on scientifically-based research to ensure teacher effectiveness and align to the TEKS. The following subject matter shall be included in the curriculum for candidates seeking initial certification:
 - (1) the specified requirements for reading instruction adopted by the SBEC for each certificate;
 - (2) the code of ethics and standard practices for Texas educators, pursuant to Chapter 247 of this title (relating to Educators' Code of Ethics);
 - (3) child development;
 - (4) motivation;
 - (5) learning theories;
 - (6) TEKS organization, structure, and skills;
 - (7) TEKS in the content areas;
 - (8) state assessment of students;
 - (9) curriculum development and lesson planning;
 - (10) classroom assessment for instruction/diagnosing learning needs;
 - (11) classroom management/developing a positive learning environment;
 - (12) special populations;
 - (13) parent conferences/communication skills;
 - (14) instructional technology;
 - (15) pedagogy/instructional strategies;
 - (16) differentiated instruction; and
 - (17) certification test preparation.

Source: The provisions of this §228.30 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective October 12, 2003, 28 TexReg 8608; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016.

§228.35. Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training.

- (a) Coursework and/or Training for Candidates Seeking Initial Certification.
 - (1) An educator preparation program shall provide coursework and/or training to ensure the educator is effective in the classroom.
 - (2) Professional development should be sustained, intensive, and classroom focused.
 - (3) An educator preparation program shall provide each candidate with a minimum of 300 clock-hours of coursework and/or training that includes the following:

- (A) a minimum of 30 clock-hours of field-based experience to be completed prior to student teaching, clinical teaching, or internship. Up to 15 clock-hours of field-based experience may be provided by use of electronic transmission, or other video or technology-based method;
 - (B) 80 clock-hours of coursework and/or training prior to student teaching, clinical teaching, or internship; and
 - (C) six clock-hours of explicit test preparation that is not embedded in other curriculum elements.
- (4) All coursework and/or training shall be completed prior to educator preparation program completion and standard certification.
 - (5) With appropriate documentation such as certificate of attendance, sign-in sheet, or other written school district verification, 50 clock-hours of training may be provided by a school district and/or campus that is an approved Texas Education Agency (TEA) continuing professional education provider.
 - (6) Each educator preparation program must develop and implement specific criteria and procedures that allow candidates to substitute prior or ongoing experience and/or professional training for part of the educator preparation requirements, provided that the experience or training is not also counted as a part of the internship, clinical teaching, student teaching, or practicum requirements, and is directly related to the certificate being sought.
- (b) Coursework and/or Training for Professional Certification (i.e. superintendent, principal, school counselor, school librarian, educational diagnostician, reading specialist, and/or master teacher). An educator preparation program shall provide coursework and/or training to ensure that the educator is effective in the professional assignment. An educator preparation program shall provide a candidate with a minimum of 200 clock-hours of coursework and/or training that is directly aligned to the state standards for the applicable certification field.
 - (c) Late Hires. A late hire for a teaching position shall complete 30 clock-hours of field-based experience as well as 80 clock-hours of initial training within 90 school days of assignment. Up to 15 clock-hours of field-based experience may be provided by use of electronic transmission, or other video or technology-based method.
 - (d) Educator Preparation Program Delivery. An educator preparation program shall provide evidence of on-going and relevant field-based experiences throughout the educator preparation program, as determined by the advisory committee as specified in §228.20 of this title (relating to Governance of Educator Preparation Programs), in a variety of educational settings with diverse student populations, including observation, modeling, and demonstration of effective practices to improve student learning.
- (1) For initial certification, each educator preparation program shall provide field-based experiences, as defined in §228.2 of this title (relating to Definitions), for a minimum of 30 clock-hours. The field-based experiences must be completed prior to assignment in an internship, student teaching, or clinical teaching. Up to 15 clock-hours of field-based experience may be provided by use of electronic transmission, or other video or technology-based method.
 - (2) For initial certification, each educator preparation program shall also provide one of the following:
 - (A) student teaching, as defined in §228.2 of this title, for a minimum of 12 weeks;
 - (B) clinical teaching, as defined in §228.2 of this title, for a minimum of 12 weeks; or
 - (C) internship, as defined in §228.2 of this title, for a minimum of one academic year (or 180 school days) for the assignment that matches the certification field for which the individual is accepted into the educator preparation program. The individual would hold a probationary certificate and be classified as a "teacher" as reported on the campus Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) data. An educator preparation program may permit an internship of up to 30 school days less than the minimum if due to maternity leave, military leave, illness, or late hire date.

- (i) An internship, student teaching, or clinical teaching for an Early Childhood-Grade 4 and Early Childhood-Grade 6 candidate may be completed at a Head Start Program with the following stipulations:
 - (I) a certified teacher is available as a trained mentor;
 - (II) the Head Start program is affiliated with the federal Head Start program and approved by the TEA;
 - (III) the Head Start program teaches three and four-year-old students; and
 - (IV) the state's pre-kindergarten curriculum guidelines are being implemented.
 - (ii) An internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, or practicum experience must take place in an actual school setting rather than a distance learning lab or virtual school setting.
- (3) For candidates seeking professional certification as a superintendent, principal, school counselor, school librarian, or an educational diagnostician, each educator preparation program shall provide a practicum, as defined in §228.2 of this title, for a minimum of 160 clock-hours.
- (4) Subject to all the requirements of this section, the TEA may approve a school that is not a public school accredited by the TEA as a site for field-based experience, internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, and/or practicum.
- (A) All Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools, wherever located, and all schools accredited by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC) are approved by the TEA for purposes of field-based experience, internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, and/or practicum.
 - (B) An educator preparation program may file an application with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public school, a private school, or a school system located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for field-based experience, or for video or other technology-based depiction of a school setting. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum, evidence showing that the instructional standards of the school or school system align with those of the applicable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) certification standards. To prevent unnecessary duplication of such applications, the TEA shall maintain a list of the schools, school systems, videos, and other technology-based transmissions that have been approved by the TEA for field-based experience.
 - (C) An educator preparation program may file an application with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for an internship, student teaching, clinical teaching, and/or practicum required by this chapter. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum:
 - (i) the accreditation(s) held by the school;
 - (ii) a crosswalk comparison of the alignment of the instructional standards of the school with those of the applicable TEKS and SBEC certification standards;
 - (iii) the certification, credentials, and training of the field supervisor(s) who will supervise candidates in the school; and
 - (iv) the measures that will be taken by the educator preparation program to ensure that the candidate's experience will be equivalent to that of a candidate in a Texas public school accredited by the TEA.
 - (D) An educator preparation program may file an application with the SBEC for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school located outside the United States,

as a site for student teaching or clinical teaching required by this chapter. The application shall be in a form developed by the TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum, the same elements required in subparagraph (C) of this paragraph for schools located within any state or territory of the United States, with the addition of a description of the on-site program personnel and program support that will be provided and a description of the school's recognition by the U.S. State Department Office of Overseas Schools.

- (e) **Campus Mentors and Cooperating Teachers.** In order to support a new educator and to increase teacher retention, an educator preparation program shall collaborate with the campus administrator to assign each candidate a campus mentor during his or her internship or assign a cooperating teacher during the candidate's student teaching or clinical teaching experience. The educator preparation program is responsible for providing mentor and/or cooperating teacher training that relies on scientifically-based research, but the program may allow the training to be provided by a school district, if properly documented.
- (f) **On-Going Educator Preparation Program Support.** Supervision of each candidate shall be conducted with the structured guidance and regular ongoing support of an experienced educator who has been trained as a field supervisor. The initial contact, which may be made by telephone, email, or other electronic communication, with the assigned candidate must occur within the first three weeks of assignment. The field supervisor shall document instructional practices observed, provide written feedback through an interactive conference with the candidate, and provide a copy of the written feedback to the candidate's campus administrator. Informal observations and coaching shall be provided by the field supervisor as appropriate.
 - (1) Each observation must be at least 45 minutes in duration and must be conducted by the field supervisor.
 - (2) An educator preparation program must provide the first observation within the first six weeks of all assignments.
 - (3) For an internship, an educator preparation program must provide a minimum of two formal observations during the first semester and one formal observation during the second semester.
 - (4) For student teaching and clinical teaching, an educator preparation program must provide a minimum of three observations during the assignment, which is a minimum of 12 weeks.
 - (5) For a practicum, an educator preparation program must provide a minimum of three observations during the term of the practicum.
- (g) **Exemption.** Under the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.050(c), a candidate who receives a baccalaureate degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under the TEC, §54.214, is exempt from the requirements of this chapter relating to field-based experience or internship consisting of student teaching.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.35 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.031, 21.044, 21.045(a), 21.050(a) and (c), and 21.051.

Source: The provisions of this §228.35 adopted to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016; amended to be effective December 26, 2010, 35 TexReg 11239.

§228.40. Assessment and Evaluation of Candidates for Certification and Program Improvement.

- (a) To ensure that a candidate for educator certification is prepared to receive the standard certificate, the entity delivering educator preparation shall establish benchmarks and structured assessments of the candidate's progress throughout the educator preparation program.
- (b) An educator preparation program shall determine the readiness of each candidate to take the appropriate certification assessment of pedagogy and professional responsibilities, including professional ethics and standards of conduct. An educator preparation program shall not grant test approval for the pedagogy and professional responsibilities assessment until a candidate has met all of the requirements for admission to the program and has been fully accepted into the educator preparation program.

- (c) For the purposes of educator preparation program improvement, an entity shall continuously evaluate the design and delivery of the educator preparation curriculum based on performance data, scientifically-based research practices, and the results of internal and external assessments.
- (d) An educator preparation program shall retain documents that evidence a candidate's eligibility for admission to the program and evidence of completion of all program requirements for a period of five years after program completion.

Source: The provisions of this §228.40 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016.

§228.50. Professional Conduct.

During the period of preparation, the educator preparation entity shall ensure that the individuals preparing candidates and the candidates themselves demonstrate adherence to Chapter 247 of this title (relating to Educators' Code of Ethics).

Source: The provisions of this §228.50 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016.

§228.60. Implementation Date.

- (a) The provisions of this chapter that were in effect on the date an educator preparation program candidate was admitted to an educator preparation program shall determine the program requirements applicable to that candidate.
- (b) All provisions in this chapter shall apply to §232.5 of this title (relating to Temporary Teacher Certificates), except that a certificate issued under §232.5 of this title shall require 380 total clock-hours of training.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.60 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.031, 21.044, 21.045(a), 21.050(a) and (c), and 21.051.

Source: The provisions of this §228.60 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10016; amended to be effective December 26, 2010, 35 TexReg 11239.