

Item 21:

Discussion of Test Development Updates

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an update on the upcoming educator certification test development process.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for the classroom teacher class certificate structure is Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.003(a), 21.031, and 21.041(b)(1), (2), and (4), 21.041(c), 21.044(a), 21.0441, 21.0418(a)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Staff is actively working to update the current content pedagogy tests to increase their rigor and relevance and to ensure alignment with the current Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). A summary of the anticipated first operational dates of the new assessments are in the table below.

July 29, 2019	September 23, 2020	March 26, 2021	TBD
Principal as Instructional Leader (268)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC-3 Content (292) • Science of Teaching Reading (293) • Educational Diagnostician (253) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts and Reading 4-8 (217) • Physical Education (257) • Health (258) • School Counselor (252) • Trade and Industrial Education PPR (370) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English Language Arts and Reading 7-12 • ESL Supplemental • Bilingual Education Supplemental • BTLPT-Spanish • Special Education and related assessments

As part of the test development process, the following test frameworks were posted for public comment:

- English Language Arts and Reading (ELAR) 4-8
- Physical Education (EC-12)
- Health (EC-12)
- School Counselor
- Trade and Industrial Education Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (6-12)

The frameworks were posted for public comment from April 10, 2019 through May 10, 2019. No public comments were received, and staff will move forward with item development.

PUBLIC AND STUDENT BENEFIT: The public and student benefit anticipated as a result of the recommendations and assessment frameworks would be more rigorous, relevant, and reliable

requirements for the preparation, certification, and testing of classroom teachers upon entry into the profession, and retention of these qualified professionals for years to come.

Staff Member Responsible:

Grace Wu, Director, Educator Standards, Testing, and Preparation

Attachment:

Statutory Citations

ATTACHMENT**Statutory Citations Related to Classroom Teacher Certificate Structure and Appointment of Advisory Committees****Texas Education Code, §21.003, Certification Required (excerpt):**

- (a) A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B.

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;
 - (4) specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate;
- (c) The board shall propose a rule adopting a fee for the issuance and maintenance of an educator certificate that, when combined with any fees imposed under Subsection (d), is adequate to cover the cost of administration of this subchapter.

Texas Education Code, §21.044, Educator Preparation (excerpts):

- (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, §21.0441, Admission Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs:

- (2) if the person is seeking initial certification:
 - (A) has successfully completed at least:

- (i) 15 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking certification, if the person is seeking certification to teach mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or
 - (ii) 12 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking certification, if the person is not seeking certification to teach mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or
- (B) has achieved a satisfactory level of performance on a content certification examination, which may be a content certification examination administered by a vendor approved by the commissioner for purposes of administering such an examination for the year for which the person is applying for admission to the program.

Texas Education Code, §21.048, Certification Examinations (excerpt):

- (a) The board shall propose rules prescribing comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the board.