
Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105

The Background:

To become a licensed educator in Tennessee, certain individuals must demonstrate both content and pedagogical competencies through assessments. The Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy currently states that the require cut score for the edTPA assessment will increase on January 1, 2022. Due to ongoing challenges related to both the pandemic and local natural disasters, this item proposes to delay the scheduled increase in the edTPA cut score for one year, until January 1, 2023. Tennessee will still maintain one of the highest edTPA cut scores in the nation.

This recommendation also aligns with research conducted by the State Board staff that indicates candidates at Educator Preparation Providers with more experience supporting candidates to take edTPA tend to perform better on the assessment. This additional year will allow time for Educator Preparation Providers to refine their practices and support student success.

This item is on first and final reading because there are no other scheduled State Board meetings prior to January 1, 2022, when the higher cut score is scheduled to go into effect.

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.

The Recommendation:

The State Board staff recommend approval of this item on first and final reading.