Teaching as a Profession and Foundational Literacy Course Standards

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The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-1-302(a)(8) authorizes the State Board of Education to "set policies governing all academic standards and courses of study in the public schools." Additionally, State Board Rule 0520-01-03-.05(1) calls for the State Board to adopt standards for each subject area, grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each local school system.

The Tennessee Literacy Success Act (Chapter 3 of the Public Acts of 2021, 1st Extraordinary Session) requires the Department to develop a foundational literacy skills instruction course for high school students participating in the Teaching as a Profession (TAP) program of study. Per T.C.A. § 49-1-906(c) the Foundational Literacy Practicum is a new course that will be offered as a Level 4 course for both the Teaching as a Profession (TAP) and Early Childhood Education Careers (ECEC) programs of study within the Education and Training career cluster.

Additionally, the Education and Training career cluster, Teaching as a Profession (TAP) Program of Study, courses have been cross walked with Literacy Standards and EPP standards to ensure alignment. The following courses have recommendations to revise current course standards to integrate elements of Foundational Literacy Skills where appropriate.

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

Education and Training	
Introduction to TAP	Revised standards
TAP I	Revised standards
TAP II	Revised standards
TAP Practicum	Revised standards
Foundational Literacy Practicum	New course

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.

The Recommendation:

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