University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

College of Professional Studies
School of Education

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www.uwsp.edu/education

Frequently Asked Questions about Student Teaching and the edTPA

Teacher Candidate Edition

— edTPA description, cost, registration, and submission —

What is the edTPA?

The edTPA is a subject-specific teacher performance assessment completed during student teaching. The assessment focuses on a learning segment of 3-5 lessons in one class. Submit artifacts (lesson plans, instructional materials, teaching videos, assessments, and sample student work) and written commentaries as evidence of your teaching proficiency. Trained professional scorers will rate your performance anonymously in planning, instruction, and assessment.

What is an edTPA handbook?

The edTPA handbook is your guide to the structure, language and rubrics of the edTPA. Handbooks are available in every licensure area. You program will decide which handbook you will complete.

Why am I required to complete an edTPA?

The edTPA was developed by the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning, and Equity (SCALE) in partnership with the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (AACTE), and is required for certification as an initial educator in Wisconsin. It is modeled after the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards' assessments of accomplished veteran teachers and was developed with input from teacher and teacher educators across the country.

What does the edTPA cost?

The edTPA costs $300, which includes official scoring and score reporting for you and the program you designate during registration. Additional score reports are $50. Retakes cost $100 for a single task (planning, instruction, or assessment) or $300 for a complete edTPA. This fee will be incorporated into UWSP course fees during the student teaching semester. Students will receive a voucher to register and submit their edTPA via the Chalk & Wire platform.

How do I register for and submit the edTPA?

Follow the procedures established by UWSP to create an account for Chalk & Wire. This is the platform that will be used to store, edit, register and submit your edTPA.

— edTPA choice, timing, and student teaching placements —

Which edTPA will I complete?

The UWSP School of Education will select the edTPA based on your student teaching placement (class, level, and subject matter) and the list of allowable handbooks provided by DPI. Typically teacher candidates will complete the handbook in their earliest (first) student teaching placement.

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What is a co-teaching model of student teaching, and how can it be used for the edTPA?

Many educator preparation programs are shifting to a co-teaching model of student teaching, where the cooperating teacher and student teacher plan collaboratively and share teaching responsibilities. Co-teaching can take a variety of forms: one teaching while the other observes or assists students; one teaching while the other works with a small group needing extra support or challenge; both teaching as

a team or in parallel at different stations; both taking turns with the teaching of particular classes, units, lessons, or activities; and so on. Co-teaching provides extensive modeling and feedback for the student teacher while boosting student learning and sustaining a high quality of instruction in the cooperating teacher's classes. You are still responsible for writing their own plans for instruction and may often teach on your own while the cooperating teacher attends to other duties. You will also need to take responsibility for planning, instructing, and assessing the class during the edTPA learning segment. More information about co-teaching can be found on the St. Cloud State University website at www.stcloudstate.edu/soe/coteaching/.

When should I start my edTPA during student teaching?

You should know your class well and be confident in your teaching ability before starting the edTPA. Keep in mind that you should submit the edTPA early enough to allow for remediation as needed. Follow your campus timeline for submission. For an 18-week student teaching placement, the optimum time to complete the edTPA appears to be around weeks 8-12; for a 9-week placement, it may be around weeks 6-8 (which could require remediation/resubmission during a subsequent placement).

-Completing the edTPA —

What is a learning segment in the edTPA?

The edTPA defines a learning segment as a set of 3-5 lessons that build one upon another toward a central focus with a clearly defined beginning and end.

Which class and topic should I choose for my edTPA learning segment?

You should choose **one specific** group of students and learning segment whose content aligns with the "central focus" and rubrics in your edTPA handbook. You should also try to pick a class with a variety of learners to help find focus students for the edTPA. The educator preparation program and cooperating teacher can help you make the most appropriate choices.

What is academic language, and what role does it play in the edTPA?

Academic language includes the words and phrases (vocabulary), sentence structures (syntax), and argument, presentation, and paper structures (discourse) that students need to perform successfully in the subject area. For some students this language will be familiar, while for others (especially English language learners) it may not be. In the edTPA, you must show how your planning, instruction, and assessment support the development of academic language related to a particular objective and task in the learning segment. More information about academic language can be found in the edTPA handbooks.

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What should I record for their edTPA learning segment?
Record the complete learning segment so you are able to select video clips that demonstrate the evidence called for in the rubrics. Please refer to your specific handbook for videotaping requirements.

How should I prepare to video record my classes?
Follow the procedures of your program to secure permission to video record during the student teaching placement. Classroom videos may be viewed only by school district personnel, education faculty, and official scorers. **In accordance with FERPA guidelines under no circumstances may videos be shared or posted online, and if you violate this restriction you could risk losing your teaching license and face a fine. You will sign a memo of understanding regarding appropriate use of video and the possible consequences for misuse.** Once permissions are secured, you should practice video recording before the edTPA to learn how to capture clear video and audio in a classroom setting and to get students acclimated to having a video camera in the room. Follow the guidelines in your handbook for students in your classroom who may not be videotaped.

— *Supporting Candidates* —

How can my *cooperating teacher* support me in completing the edTPA?
In the weeks leading up to the edTPA, the cooperating teacher can help you get to know the students, build your confidence as a teacher, and choose a class, topic, and focus students for the edTPA learning segment. During the learning segment (3-5 class days), the cooperating teacher should give you full responsibility for planning, teaching, and assessing the class.

How will my *educator preparation program* support me in completing the edTPA?
Throughout your program preparation you will be exposed to the elements, language and structure of the edTPA. The program will provide you with support materials such as the "Making Good Choices" guide and your edTPA handbook. Programs may not tell you which videos to use or what to write, and under no circumstances may faculty edit or upload your materials. Examples of appropriate and inappropriate support are spelled out in the document "Guidelines for Supporting Candidates Completing edTPA" available on the Pearson edTPA site (www.edtpa.com).

— *Scores and Retakes* —

How long will it take until I get my results?
It takes 3-4 weeks to receive scores after submission. You will be notified of your scores by email. Your teacher preparation program will also receive your results.

What is the passing score for the edTPA?
The required minimum score for all program area handbooks (with15 Rubrics) is 38.
The cut score for World Language (with 13 Rubrics) is 32.
You will have to achieve the state passing score on the edTPA to be eligible for initial licensure.

What if I don't pass the edTPA?
If you do not meet your institution's or the state's passing requirements you may register to re-take a single task ($100 fee) or the full edTPA ($300 fee). If you do not pass your edTPA, contact your teacher education program for re-take guidelines. Passing scores on the edTPA will be mandatory for educator licensing effective 2016-2017.

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— More Information —

Where can I find more information?
The Pearson edTPA site (www.edtpa.com) is the official source of information for candidates or UWSP
School of Education Home Page http://www.uwsp.edu/education/Pages/edtpa.aspx

For additional information contact:

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