Why edTPA?

edTPA is the assessment and support system designed to provide evidence to states and educator preparation programs that their teaching candidates are ready to teach. Through its authentic, performance-based and educative approach, edTPA helps develop and assess the effectiveness of aspiring teachers. With a focus on learning for all students, **edTPA engages teacher candidates in developing the knowledge, skills and abilities they need to meet the needs of today's diverse learners.**

edTPA assesses subject-specific pedagogy

edTPA is a subject-specific performance assessment that recognizes that teaching and learning are not the same across all subjects and all grades or levels. A history teacher doesn't approach inquiry the same way as a science teacher. A kindergarten teacher doesn't communicate the same way as a middle school math teacher. That's why edTPA doesn't assess all teachers the same way. As the nation's first pre-service, subject-specific performance assessment, edTPA measures relevant skills for each of 27 different teaching fields. But it's much more than just an assessment edTPA's invaluable support resources help teacher preparation programs deepen their focus on the subject specific skills of aspiring teachers, reflecting the rigors of a real classroom.
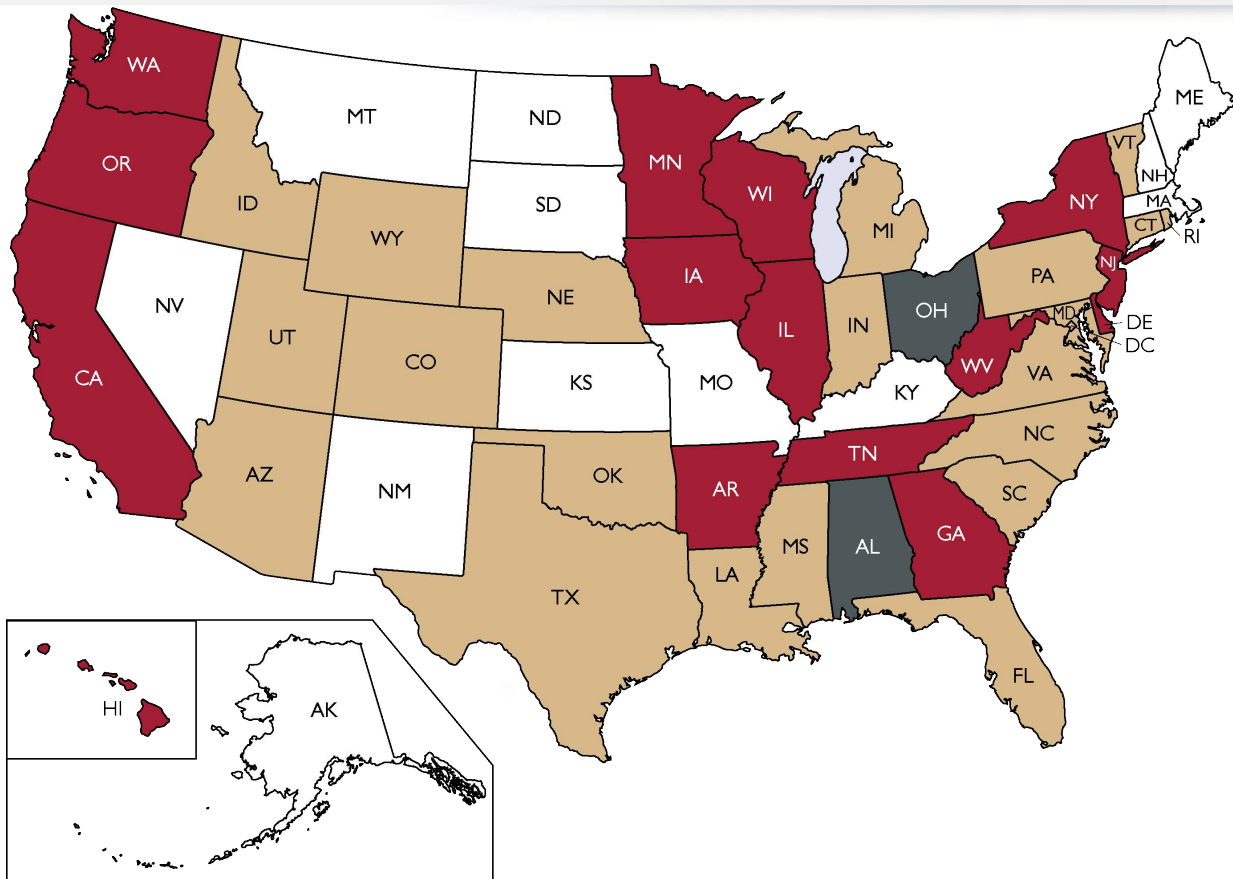
edTPA is embedded in authentic clinical practice

edTPA is designed to provide a realistic and meaningful gateway to the teaching profession, something educators and policymakers expect. Current course-completion tests of subject-area knowledge alone may not comprehensively reflect the realities and authenticity of what it takes for a beginning teacher to be effective. edTPA's integrated portfolio model and authentic artifacts of practice are prepared by candidates in a clinical teaching experience and reflect a cycle of effective teaching. The candidate demonstrates how s/he plans instruction based on their teaching context and students' strengths and needs, engages students in deep subject specific instruction and analyzes student learning to inform next steps for teaching. This cycle of planning, instruction and assessment mirrors what real teachers do day-to-day to ensure their students learn.

edTPA provides support for implementation

More than **650 educator preparation programs in 36** states and the District of Columbia already use edTPA. An important element of the experience gained from the broad use of edTPA is that support to faculty members and programs is fundamental to fulfilling its educative promise. edTPA's robust support includes guidelines for incorporating the learning principles of the edTPA across time to ensure that programs provide candidates with formative opportunities to develop their practice and states have baseline data for determining performance standards. edTPA developers provide numerous resources such as webinars, local evaluation protocols, online and face-to-face training and professional networks that allow participating faculty, programs and institutions to review their own practices and curriculum, identify strengths and needs of candidates, embed edTPA in their multiple measures assessment systems, and to join new professional communities.

edTPA provides beginning teachers a solid foundation on which to build successful careers and ensures that all students have a well-prepared teacher from Day One.

This growing network of support with more than 5,000 members is led by edTPA's partners: the Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity and the American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education.

Policy in Place

In general, these states have statewide policies in place requiring a state-approved performance assessment as a part of program completion or for state licenser and/or state program accreditation/review. In these states, edTPA has been approved as a performance assessment for these purposes.

Taking Steps Toward Implementation

A performance assessment and/or edTPA are being considered at the state level for program completion or as a licenser requirement.

State Participating in edTPA

At least one provider of teacher preparation—either traditional or alternative—is exploring or trying out edTPA.

Western Governors University is a participating member of edTPA and offers accredited teacher preparation programs across the U.S.

edTPA®

Learn more at http://edtpa.aacte.org or
Contact edtpa-policy@aacte.org

SCALE
Stanford Center for Assessment, Learning and Equity