

Education Credentialing Update for TACO
West Social Room, Our Lady of the Lake University
Friday, October 16, 2009
9:00 – 11:00 AM

(8:52 AM) Welcome from hostess Sandy Cordova (OLLU). Welcome remarks from Dr. David Estes, Executive VP from OLLU were delivered .

Welcome and overview of TACO from President Connie Sabo-Risley (University of the Incarnate Word). TACO is a group comprised of certification officers from universities, alternative certification programs, and school district personnel.

- Dues \$35 for first member / \$15 each member after in each organization.
- Annual meeting held each June at St. Edward's University in Austin, TX and fall meeting each year at CSOTTE. TACO also holds additional, small meetings for regular updates and dialogue (like this one).

Presentation from Melva Cardenas, Director of Educator Credentialing in the Division of Educator - Revisions Certification Standards on Rule Review updates.

Refer to attached slide presentation for Power Point notes.

1. Updates on Chapter 229 – forthcoming from Drs. Loonam & Lopez at CSOTTE presentations on Monday 10/19/09. Proposed revisions are available online from SBEC Board Meeting agendas.
2. Revisions to Chapter 230 – lots of “clean-up” for outdated and invalid rules, but few substantive changes. New comprehensive chart to clarify needed credentials organized by teaching assignments. (also see Ch 231 for a similar chart, organized by certificate)
 - a. CH 230, Subchapter Q (updates included for issuance of emergency permits)
 - b. Fully approved and posted on the SBEC website.
3. Principal Rule Review – CH 241
 - a. New requirements
 - i. Valid teaching certificate will be required
 - ii. Master's degree is required from accredited institution by the TX Higher Education Coordinating Board
 - iii. Knowledge and guidance and counseling program
 - iv. Reorganization of content for better readability
 - v. Repeal of Principal Assessment (House Bill 200)
 1. *Principals no longer required to participate in principal assessment every five years.*
 - a. *Note, principals still need to complete 200 CPE hours every five years (renewal process is the same, but this specific assessment is no longer required).*
4. Superintendent Rules – TAC Ch 242
 - a. See Power point for specifics
5. TAC CH 239 & 240 (Student Services and American Sign Languages) - currently under review, pending adoption, December 2009.

- a. See Power point for specifics on proposed changes and updates
6. Generalist EC-6 Certificates
- a. Replacing EC-4 certificates (4-8 certificates will remain)
 - b. EC-4 will be phased out in 2011 – all candidates must apply for certification
 - c. New tests forthcoming (10/31/09) – Bilingual and ESL Generalist
 - d. *Moving toward electronic administration for TExES EC-6 Generalist tests*
7. Bilingual Certificates – TAC 233.6
- a. In code, a person who has a bilingual certificate can teach in ESL without ESL certificate (note – ESL cannot teach in a bilingual setting without an added certificate). Districts can add additional requirements.
 - b. See Power point for specifics about bilingual certificate and placement
8. Bilingual Proficiency Tests
- a. BTLPT – currently offered (only applies for bilingual certificates, not LOTE certificates). TOPT currently being phased out.
 - i. BTLPT more comprehensive and challenging (dealing with all aspects of communication)
 - b. ACTFL – language proficiency test for Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese (take both oral and written)
9. LOTE – 233.15
- a. Combined tests – oral, written, reading, and writing
 - i. Updates – French, Spanish, and German (Fall 2009)
 - ii. Latin is not ready to be offered
10. Probationary Certificates – TAC 232.4
- a. See Power point
 - b. **Elementary Special Education PK-6 in core subject areas** - Candidates must pass the appropriate content test for assignment AND the Special Education EC-12 test).
 - i. Not required for teachers who do not teach in core subject areas (i.e., life skills or inclusion where candidate is not the teacher of record).
11. HB 4152 – Out-of-State / Out-Country-Teachers
- a. See Power point regarding extensions and testing requirements
 - b. Prioritize shortage area requests reviewed (for Out-of-State certified)
12. Going “Green” with certificates
- a. Doing away with the paper certificates (virtual record is the official record)
 - i. As of 4/09 – paper copies only available by request at the time of application
 - b. As a trade off, create a “pretty” certificate that candidates can print at their own request
13. Updated website: www.tea.state.tx.us (former website: www.sbec.state.tx.us)

- a. SBEC blue screen may not be accurate, since the new TEA site launched with current and comprehensive info.
- b. Screens are the same for candidates creating accounts.

Q&A

- US Department of Education audited Texas on “Highly Qualified” on elementary testing. Determination was made that some certified elementary educators MAY NOT be highly qualified under NCLB (applies to teachers who are in a generalist classroom who **only** have one subject area test – like 4-8 Math or EC-12 Music). Only applies to new teachers hired in '09-'10 or if a teacher's assignment changed in '09-'10. Briefing scheduled on NCLB at CSOTTE with Cory Green, letters forthcoming to superintendents.

Session ended: 10:45 AM

Minutes prepared by Lisa Jasinski, TACO Secretary (Trinity University)