

James T. Meeks, Chairman

Tony Smith, Ph.D.,
State Superintendent of
Education

November 2015
Volume 1, Issue 1

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Illinois State Board of Education
100 N. 1st Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777
IHE #: 217-782-7091
Fax: 217-524-1289
www.isbe.net



PREPARATION POINTS

ILLINOIS STATE
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Center for Educator Effectiveness

WELCOME

Jason Helfer

2016 is approaching and with it comes the promise of great growth and change. As part of our own expansion and growth, we're excited to launch our inaugural PREPARATION POINTS Newsletter, which is specifically designed to help institutions of higher education and their students succeed in their pursuit of licensure.

The 'Points' of knowledge we share with you will arrive at the beginning of each month. The newsletter will share ISBE licensure and rule updates, deadlines, edTPA and testing announcements, upcoming events and staff highlights.

THIS IS FOR YOU

We have signed you up for our newsletter in hopes that you will find great value in its content and that it will assist in your progression of educator development. If you ever find that what we offer is not for you, simply email cdimmitt@isbe.net.

ALSO...

If you know of someone who is not receiving this newsletter but would like to be added to our list, please email cdimmitt@isbe.net.

Q & A

As you browse this newsletter, take a moment to read over the IHE Q & A section located at the end. These questions are compiled throughout the month from institutions all over the state. Our hope is to share the answers to the most frequent questions to create a consistent voice from ISBE to all IHEs.

ISBE UPDATES

NEW CONSULTANTS

The Preparation and Evaluation Division has grown! As of October 1st, Cristina "Tina" Dimmitt-Salinas and Seth Mernaugh joined the agency as new principal consultants. Tina and Seth will be liaisons from both licensure and preparation.

We are also excited to announce the addition of two more staff members which will join our staff in the coming months! Continue to check our staff highlights section for their debut.

Tina and Seth have been assigned to specific IHEs (*See page 2*).

	EMAIL	OFFICE
Tina	cdimmitt@isbe.net	217-782-7485
Seth	smernaugh@isbe.net	217-782-9745

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ISBE UPDATES CONTINUED...

Tina	Seth
Aurora University	Augustana College
Blackburn College	Benedictine University
Bradley University	Chicago School of Professional Psychology
Columbia College Chicago	Chicago State University
Dominican University	Concordia University
Eastern Illinois University	DePaul University
Elmhurst College	Eureka College
Erikson Institute	Greenville College
Governors State University	Illinois College
Hebrew Theological College	Knox College
Illinois Institute of Technology	Lake Forest College
Illinois State University	MacMurray College
Illinois Wesleyan University	Millikin University
Judson University	Monmouth College
Kendall College	National Louis University
Lewis University	New Leaders
Loyola University Chicago	North Central College
McKendree University	Northeastern Illinois University
Northwestern University	Northern Illinois University
Olivet Nazarene University	North Park University
Quincy University	Southern Illinois University – Carbondale
Relay Graduate School of Education	St. Xavier University
Rockford University	Trinity Christian College
Roosevelt University	Trinity International University
School of the Art Institute Chicago	University of Chicago
Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville	University of Illinois at Chicago
VanderCook College of Music	University of Illinois at Springfield
Western Illinois University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Wheaton College	University of St. Francis

NEW WEBSITE

Our division is excited to announce a redesign is in store the licensure website. While this process is still in its infancy and will take months, we are dedicated to creating a page where navigation is simple and essential information is easy find. Stay tuned for future updates!

Website Redesign Suggestions

We value your input! Suggestions for our website redesign should be sent to your ISBE liaison.

REMINDERS

- The Licensure Officer Webinar series for this fall has concluded. Find all previous LO webinars [here](#).
- Annual Program Report due by November 30th 2015. Find the instructional webinar [here](#).
- New TAP (400) practice test (B) is available on ILTS. Click [here](#). *There are two versions of the practice test now!*
- ILTS has released the Elementary Education (Grades 1-6) test framework for test (197-200) Click [here](#).

ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORT

2014-15 Academic Year

The window to submit the APR opened October 1st and will close November 30th. The annual program report is submitted through IWAS by your institutions IWAS administrator. Once submitted to ISBE, no changes can be made.

As the deadline fast approaches we want to ensure all IHEs are ready to submit their report by November 30th. We encourage all institutions to view the instructional [video](#) and [webinar](#) available for completion support. If you need additional guidance contact your IHE liaison.

Click [here](#) for 23 Illinois Administrative Code Section 25.155h.

APR NOTICE

APR was updated for this reporting cycle to include the new APT. ISBE is aware of the reporting concern regarding principal programs. We will contact those institutions for which this applies on how to proceed.

edTPA

ENTITLEMENT

ISBE has uploaded approximately 2,500 edTPA scores into educator ELIS accounts. There were 500 scores that could not be uploaded because educators either have not created an ELIS account yet or their name/SSN reported to edTPA did not match their account in ELIS. We will attempt to upload these scores again in December, and will continue to attempt to upload unmatched scores each time a new batch is received from edTPA.

HANDBOOK

ISBE is aware of the concern regarding the videoing element of the edTPA. In an effort assist school partners and parents, we have created an edTPA handbook to address this and other issues. This handbook outlines the notable purpose of edTPA and encourages best practice in the confidentiality of all K-12 students. The handbook will be made available by early November.

PORTFOLIOS

As candidates are placed in Illinois schools for their clinical experience, ISBE recommends that educators submit edTPAs that align with their student teaching. *For example: If an educator is pursuing an elementary education (K-9) license and is doing their student teaching in a middle school science classroom, the educator should prepare a middle grades portfolio.*

Click [here](#) for edTPA Assessment Areas and Passing Scores for Illinois.

REMINDERS

Illinois has established a ramp up policy for incrementally increasing the edTPA passing scores over the next 3 years. ISBE recommends you share this with your candidates so they know what to expect. The timeline for implementation is listed below:

	13 Rubric Fields	15 Rubric Fields	18 Rubric Fields
9/1/2015-8/31/2016	31	35	41
9/1/2016-8/31/2017	31	35	41
9/1/2017-8/31/2018	33	37	43
9/1/2018-8/31/2019	35	39	45
9/1/2019	37	41	47

ISBE SPOTLIGHT

Meet the Staff

The Center for Educator Effectiveness is driven by effective evaluators and preparation staff. The licensure evaluators make up of 30+ employees that process and issue teacher, school service personnel, administrator, paraprofessional and substitute licenses. The preparation staff consults with institutions of educator preparation in program design, implementation, annual review, policy and procedure development, assistance with statute and administrative rules and providing leadership for SEPLB.

The Center for Educator Effectiveness is led by Division Supervisor Dennis Williams, Division Administrator Emily Fox and Assistant Superintendent Jason Helfer. Their advocacy of educator preparation for the teachers and students of Illinois classrooms is unwavering.

Pictured below is our Preparation Team. (From Left to Right) Dennis Williams, Seth Mernaugh, Jason Helfer, Emily Fox, Tina Dimmitt-Salinas, Henri Fonville.



ISBE EVENTS:

ISBE CLOSINGS:

**November 11th
Veterans Day**

**November 26th & 27th
Happy Thanksgiving**

**December 25th &
January 1st
Happy Holidays**

**ILLINOIS STATE
EDUCATOR
PREPARATION AND
LICENSURE BOARD
MEETINGS**

**November 6th 2015
9:00am-4:00pm**
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, IL 62777
Fourth Floor, Board Room

**December 4th 2015
9:00am-4:00pm**
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, IL 62777
Fourth Floor, Board Room

The Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (SEPLB) Supports a system of preparing and certifying (licensing) teachers, administrators and school service personnel that reflect the highest standards and best practices to meet the educational needs of every child in the State of Illinois.

For prior SEPLB meeting agendas and minutes [click here.](#)

LBS I

COURSEWORK

ISBE has determined that it is appropriate to accept LBSI coursework that is specific to the grade range of the educator’s underlying endorsement. For

Example: If an educator is endorsed in early childhood education (B-3) and applies for the LBSI endorsement, we can honor LBSI characteristics, methods and assessment course work that is specific to “young children”, “ages 3-6”, etc. Coursework does not

have to span the K-12 grade range.

The K-12 grade range requirement is not listed in Rules for LBSI endorsements on PELs; rather, it stems historically from issuance of the old “special” certificates endorsed for special education. We plan to add a new section to rules to specify grade ranges for endorsements and they type of course work needed for each one.

EdTPA MYTHS and FACTS

Myth: Determining whether a candidate is prepared for the classroom cannot be measured by assessing a 20-minute recording of their classroom practice that can be edited and/or chosen as a representation of their practice as a whole.

Fact: Much like the National Board portfolio and the Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) studies, candidates are not judged solely on a 20-minute video. The video clips illustrate how candidates enact various aspects of effective teaching are inextricably linked with multiple sources of evidence including real artifacts of teaching including lesson plans, student work samples, and instructional materials. Candidates also provide commentaries justifying their lesson plans based on their students’ strengths and needs, analyzing student work, explaining feedback to students, and proposing next steps for teaching and learning. Developing a reliable understanding of whether a candidate is prepared to be the teacher of record in their own classroom requires the use of multiple measures of skills, practices and performance. There is no single approach that can measure teacher competence; given how complex and varied the knowledge base is for measuring effective teaching. edTPA is a capstone, summative assessment that contributes to a multiple-measures system for licensure.

PROGRAM PROPOSALS

UPDATES

Please email your program proposal and any supplemental documents to your ISBE consultant. *We are updating the documents on the website to reflect our new consultants so if you are working with a document that lists other names, please disregard.*

Questions and Answers

Q: Is there a test for the Teacher Leader endorsement?

A: *No. Currently there is no required test.*

Q: How long are ACT scores valid?

A: *ACT Scores are valid indefinitely, as are the TAP and SAT. The content test, APT and edTPA scores are valid for 10 years.*

Q: What is the status of revising special education programs?

A: *The CEEDAR state leadership team has been meeting monthly to develop suggestions for special education standards. This work will continue into the spring of 2016.*

Q: Now that the edTPA is consequential, are institutions required to use the edTPA as a program assessment?

A: *IHEs may use the edTPA as a program assessment.*

Q: Would we need to make any changes to our existing programs if we add the option of a semester abroad student teaching experience?

A: *Conducting student teaching outside Illinois is an institutional decision. However, student teaching needs to be completed under a teacher who holds a current Illinois PEL. No change notification form is needed. The institution needs to ensure all requirements of 23 Illinois Administrative Code Section 25.620 for student teaching are met.*

Q: Will there be repercussions for institution that have candidates who don’t pass the edTPA the first time?

A: *No*

Q: When will the new Elementary Education Content Tests be available?

A: *Spring 2016*

Q: If candidates complete a new Middle Grades program in a content area before the content area test is ready, can they be entitled without passing the middle grades content test?

A: *The current Elementary/Middle grades (110) content test will be available through 1/31/2018. Once the new middle grades tests are developed, an educator may elect to take either the new middle grades content test or the current (110) content test through 1/31/2018.*

