



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

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**DATE:**  
February 9, 2024

**NUMBER:**  
24-02

**SUBJECT: TPA SECONDARY PASSING STANDARDS**

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**Summary:**

At its December 2023 meeting, the [Commission approved a secondary passing standard](#) for the CalTPA and edTPA. The purpose of this action was to allow preparation programs to recommend candidates for a preliminary teaching credential who have met all other credential requirements and demonstrated competence across all Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) but scored just below the Commission adopted passing standard on their CalTPA or edTPA teaching performance assessment (TPA).

**Key Provisions:**

The Commission approved allowing preparation programs to use a secondary passing standard for candidates whose score was within a few points of the adopted CalTPA or edTPA passing standards. In establishing secondary passing standards for these two performance assessment models, the Commission relied on the provisions of [Education Code section 44320.2\(e\)\(2\)](#).

The secondary passing standard consists of two requirements that must both be met:

- a. The candidate must have scored within -1.0 (negative 1.0) standard error of measurement (SEM) of the Commission-approved passing standard for that TPA and must have met any applicable CalTPA side condition (e.g., having no more than one score of 1 (see table below); and
- b. The program has documented evidence from other sources that the candidate has demonstrated competency in all of the current Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) domains for the credential sought.

To recommend a candidate for a preliminary credential using the secondary passing standards, the preparation program must verify that all four of the following conditions have been met:

1. The candidate is currently enrolled in the program.  
(Note: Each institution has its own policies and procedures regarding enrollment, so enrollment status is a program decision. For example, programs could consider a candidate enrolling in one course to meet this requirement.)
  
2. The candidate has met all other current credential requirements, including passing the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) for Multiple Subject and Education Specialist candidates.
  
3. The candidate scored within -1.0 SEM of the adopted passing standard for the appropriate, currently approved versions of the CalTPA or edTPA, which became operational on July 1, 2018.  
(Note: Institutions can verify the score date of the TPA by checking the candidate's score report received from Pearson or online through Reports Analyzer.)

<b>Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA)</b>	<b>Adopted TPA Passing Standard</b>	<b>Secondary Passing Standard (-1.0 SEM applied to TPA Passing Standard) with TPE Evidence</b>
Cal TPA Multiple and Single Subject Cycle 1	19 with no more than one score of 1 allowed	16 with no more than one score of 1 allowed
Cal TPA Multiple and Single Subject Cycle 2	21 with no more than one score of 1 allowed	18 with no more than one score of 1 allowed
Cal TPA Mild to Moderate Support Needs Cycle 1	17 with no more than one score of 1 allowed	15 with no more than one score of 1 allowed
Cal TPA Mild to Moderate Support Needs Cycle 2	19 with no more than one score of 1 allowed	17 with no more than one score of 1 allowed
Cal TPA Extensive Support Needs Cycle 1	15	12
Cal TPA Extensive Support Needs Cycle 2	17	15
edTPA 13 rubric handbook	35	32
edTPA 15 rubric handbook	41	38
edTPA 18 rubric handbook	49	46
edTPA Education Specialist	35	32

4. The program has documented evidence from other sources that, together with the TPA results, the candidate has demonstrated competency in all domains of the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPE) for the credential sought.  
(Note: Acceptable evidence may include observations of teaching, information gathered and documented from cooperating/mentor teachers, completed coursework assignments, other embedded formative and summative program level assessments for

which the candidate has met the local passing expectation, and/or components of the TPA the candidate completed successfully (rubric score of 3 or above).

Self-assessments are not acceptable forms of documented evidence. Documentation for each candidate recommended under this option may be reviewed during the accreditation process. Institutions must keep complete records of the evidence used to recommend each candidate with the secondary passing standard as part of demonstrating that the institution meets Common Standard 1 and that all candidates meet all requirements prior to being recommended for a credential.)

If all four of the above conditions are met, the program may recommend the candidate for a preliminary credential. Early Completion candidates can be recommended for a preliminary credential by the program if they meet the secondary passing standard and the program has documented evidence from other sources that the candidate has demonstrated competency in all domains of the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPE) for the credential sought.

The recommendation must be made on a paper application and be accompanied by a completed Form CL-911 Teacher Performance Assessment Verification Form (see attached). Online recommendations cannot be accepted at this time.

Education Code sec. 44320.2(e)(3) and the Commission's adopted program standards require programs to work with candidates to develop an Individual Development plan (IDP) which will be used by the candidates and their induction programs to develop an Individual Learning Plan (ILP) that identifies areas for continued support and professional growth and development during induction. It is the Commission's intent that there be a strong link between the IDP and ILP. The IDP should be informed, at least in part, by candidate performance on a Commission-approved teaching performance assessment. Following a recommendation made on the basis of the secondary TPA passing standard, therefore, the program making such a recommendation must work with the candidate to develop an IDP that reflects consideration of TPA performance and the results of the institution's documentation relied upon in making a determination to recommend a candidate for a credential using these new permissions approved by the Commission.

***Important Note:*** Candidates who score below the secondary passing standard will need to continue receiving program support and remediation, as required in [Program Standard 5](#), and are required to revise and/or redo their TPA. They may be recommended for a credential if the revised or redone TPA meets the adopted or secondary passing standard.

**Important Dates:**

Programs may begin recommending candidates for a preliminary credential based on meeting all of conditions 1-4 specified above for the secondary passing standard, effective immediately.

**Sources:**

December 2023 Commission Agenda Item [2D: Options to Study and Improve California's Teaching Performance Assessments](#)

**References:**

[Education Code section 44320.2\(e\)\(2\)](#)

**Contact Information:**

Contact Information for the Professional Services Division is available at the [Professional Services Contact webpage](#).