February 6, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Testing Requirements for Individuals on the Provisional Certificate in a Teaching Field (PCTF) Approach and Provisional Certificate in a Career and Technical Teaching Field (PCCT) Approach

The Educator Preparation Chapter of the Alabama Administrative Code states that the Educative Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA) is the pedagogical assessment required for initial certification in Alabama for all teaching fields in which an edTPA Handbook has been developed. For areas where no edTPA Handbook exists, the Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) test is the required pedagogical assessment. This requirement became effective on September 1, 2018.

In a memorandum dated September 20, 2016, former Alabama State Superintendent of Education Michael Sentance stated that edTPA would be required for alternative routes leading to certification, such as the Provisional Certificate in a Teaching Field (PCTF) approach, beginning fall semester 2018-2019.

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Educator Certification Section, released the application for The First Provisional Certificate in a Teaching Field (PCTF) for the 2018-2019 Scholastic Year in May 2018. The requirement section of the form states that for areas where an edTPA Handbook has been developed, the individual must earn the current passing score on the appropriate edTPA Handbook prior to October 1 of the scholastic year for which the third PCTF is to be issued and the score must be electronically submitted to the ALSDE by the testing company.

The Educator Certification Section also released the application for The First Provisional Certificate in a Career and Technical Teaching Field (PCCT) for the 2018-2019 Scholastic Year in May 2018. The requirement section of the form states that for the areas of agriscience education, business/marketing education, career technologies, and family and consumer sciences education, the individual must earn the current passing score on the appropriate edTPA Handbook prior to October 1 of the scholastic year for which the third PCCT is to be issued and the score must be electronically submitted to the ALSDE by the testing company.
During the last year, the ALSDE, Office of Teaching and Leading, experienced several personnel changes, including the assessment coordinator position. These changes adversely affected the timeline for adequately training and preparing local education agencies to support individuals on the PCTF and PCCT approaches through the edTPA processes of registration, portfolio development, and portfolio submission.

Since additional time is needed for edTPA training and support preparation, **individuals who received the first PCTF or the first PCCT for the 2018-2019 scholastic year will not be required to complete and earn a passing score on edTPA for issuance of the third PCTF or PCCT.** These individuals will be required to earn the current passing score on the appropriate Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) test prior to October 1 of the scholastic year for which the third PCTF or PCCT is to be issued. Additional information regarding the PLT test can be found at [www.alsde.edu/sec/ca](http://www.alsde.edu/sec/ca) (choose Educator Assessment Policies and then choose Educator Assessment Policies Manual A).

**Individuals who receive a first PCTF or PCCT for the 2019-2020 scholastic year and thereafter, will be required to complete and earn a passing score on the appropriate edTPA Handbook prior to October 1 of the scholastic year for which the third PCTF or PCCT is to be issued.** For teaching fields where no edTPA Handbook exists, the current passing score on the appropriate Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) test will be required. Information regarding edTPA training sessions and resources to assist these individuals will be forthcoming.

For additional information regarding testing requirements for individuals on the PCTF and PCCT approaches, please contact Dr. Deanise F. Peacock, Assessment Coordinator, at 334-694-4595 or by email at dpeacock@alsde.edu.

BGM/DFP/SG

cc: City and County School Systems Human Resource Directors  
Deans of Education  
Dr. Daniel Boyd  
Dr. Jayne Meyer  
Mrs. Shavon Cummings

FY19-2052