

Daniel L. Goodwin College of Education  
Office of the Dean

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## Memorandum

**DATE:** January 3, 2023

**FROM:** Dr. Alberto López  
Associate Dean

**TO:** Candidates completing student teaching in Spring 2023, Fall 2023 and Spring 2024

**RE:** **Content Test and edTPA for licensure in Illinois: Candidates graduating and completing student teaching in Spring 2023, Fall 2023, and Spring 2024**

**Cc:** Department chairs  
Program Advisors  
Dr. Thomas Phillion, Dean  
Ms. Rahshida Walker, University Registrar

On December 8, 2022, the Governor of the State of Illinois issued and signed a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation that will be in effect past December 31, 2022. In accordance with Section 25.1015 of Part 25 of the Illinois Administrative Code, due to this disaster proclamation, the edTPA licensure requirement will now be waived during the Fall 2023 academic term. The earliest it could be required again is during the Spring 2024 term.

Relatedly, content tests will continue to be required at the time of licensure, rather than prior to student teaching. Based on the most recent proclamation, students must pass the content area test prior to student teaching beginning Spring 2024, unless the order is once again extended past June 30, 2023.

### **What does this new deadline mean if I am completing student teaching in Spring 2023 and Fall 2023?**

- You will **not** need to pass the content test **before** students teaching. You may apply to complete your student teaching, and the CEST Office will process your application without confirming a passing score on the content test.
- You do not need to have official passing content area exam scores on file with the Goodwin College of Education to begin your Spring 2023 or Fall 2023 student teaching experience.
- You must pass the content test for entitlement/licensure. NEIU will **not** recommend you for entitlement until you have passed your required content area exam(s).
- For Spring 2023 student teachers, your passing scores must be reflected in your ELIS account by **May 14, 2023** for Spring 2023. For Fall 2023 student teachers, please consult when grades are

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due in Fall 2023 once the university calendar has been published:

<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/registrar-services/academic-calendar>

- For Spring 2023 student teachers, if you do not expect to have a passing score on the content test(s) by May 14, 2023, you may petition to graduate without licensure. Please, contact your program advisor for details on how to petition to graduate without a teaching license. For Fall 2023 student teachers, if you do not expect to have a passing scores on the date grades are due in Fall 2023, contact your program advisor for details on how to petition to graduate without license. Consult when grades are due in Fall 2023 once the university calendar has been published: <https://www.neiu.edu/academics/registrar-services/academic-calendar>
- ISBE has waived EdTPA for candidates completing their teacher licensure program in Spring 2023 and Fall 2023. You will **not** need to pass this assessment to earn your initial license. The waiver is valid only for Illinois. If you plan to move to a state that requires edTPA for licensure, you may want to call that state board of education and ask if they will accept Illinois' edTPA waiver. Also, consult with your financial aid advisor if receiving a waiver in one of the licensure requirements might impact your plans to acquire loan forgiveness. If you decide to submit edTPA, the Goodwin College of Education and your teacher licensure program will support you. Please, inform your advisor and university supervisor if you choose to submit the assessment.

**What does this new deadline mean if I am completing student teaching in Spring 2024?**

- You will need to pass the content test **BEFORE** student teaching
- During student teaching, you will need to complete edTPA and have a passing score for licensure.

Please, contact your program advisor or the Dean's office if you have further questions, [gcoe@neiu.edu](mailto:gcoe@neiu.edu)