

Memorandum

Date: September 19, 2025
To: Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board
From: Michelle Sandler, Teacher Education Specialist
RE: CTE edTPA Cut Scores - ACTION

Summary:

In 2011, the Minnesota legislature established a requirement making a board-adopted teacher performance assessment a component of all teacher preparation programs. Shortly thereafter, the Board of Teaching adopted the edTPA as the performance assessment for Minnesota teacher candidates. While this statute was later repealed, the Board's rules still require initial licensure candidates to complete the board-adopted teacher performance assessment.

The edTPA is not a licensure requirement (i.e., a teacher candidate does not need to obtain passing scores to obtain a teaching license), but teacher candidates completing an initial licensure program must complete a Board adopted performance assessment unless the Board grants a variance request to waive the requirement for the individual/program. At this time, there are 25 teacher preparation providers with a variance in place to use the CPAST in place of the edTPA [CPAST Pilot: Data Reporting Requirements - Update](#) with another TPP planning on seeking approval in September.

The edTPA may be used by licensure via portfolio candidates in place of submitting a portfolio for the Standards of Effective Practice ([8710.0330 - MN Rules Part](#), Subp. 2B(4)).

The Board has set the following recommended scores for initial licensure programs with 15 rubrics: Planning (13), Instruction (13), and Assessment (12). For programs with 13 rubrics, the cut scores for passing are: Planning (10), Instruction (13), and Assessment (9). Additionally, the Board set a pass rate of 70% for each task. As of July 2024, Task 2 of the edTPA is not required for completion or reporting (Pearson shares that Task 2, which is not currently required for portfolio or program candidates, is critical to ensuring reliability).

Currently, Minnesota does not have edTPA cut scores set for CTE, because this is the newest edTPA area with the first use in August of 2023. Only one state, North Carolina, has adopted the CTE edTPA and are using a licensure passing standard of 33. As of May 2025, there were only 28 completers with a mean score of 43.4. According to Pearson, the CTE rubrics are structurally 80% the same as the other 15 rubric handbooks with the same three tasks that each have 5 rubrics and a possible total score of 75. The CTE handbook requires less writing overall. Pearson is currently keeping an eye on the CTE edTPA data.

Additional Information

Pearson clarified that CTE candidates *do* need to submit a lesson plan, but it is simplified compared to what candidates typically create on their own.

The national standard for the CTE handbook is 33 though states can adopt their own standard.

Options:

1. Adopt a cut score for the Career and Technical edTPAs that is 1 standard deviation lower than the recommendation from Pearson, allowing the Board to collect data for the first two years.
2. Adopt a cut score for the Career and Technical edTPAs that is the same as the other handbooks with 15 rubrics - Planning (13) and Assessment (12)
3. Table for further discussion.