



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

March 13, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans of Education
Certification Officers

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Response to COVID-19

We have received numerous requests for guidance concerning completion of P-12 school-based requirements. For those of you whose education preparation providers (EPPs) have closed, will close soon, or have transitioned to online learning models, I hope the following message will provide the answers you need:

1. Candidates should continue to complete field, internship, and instructional leadership residency requirements at your discretion if the P-12 school(s) in which those experiences are to occur this semester remain open. Continue to update your records to document those field and internship placements.
2. We will consider case-by-case waiver requests from certification officers for candidates unable to complete field, internship, or instructional leadership residency requirements because:
 - a. The P-12 school(s) in which those experiences are to occur this semester close for more than three weeks.
 - b. The candidate lives in campus housing that is closed by the EPP and the candidate has no other housing possibility that will allow the candidate to complete requirements.
 - c. The candidate has a confirmed case of COVID-19.
3. Candidates who are enrolled in their last semester of work with your EPP and complete your program will be eligible for certification when they earn a degree, we receive a complete recommendation for certification, and we have electronic documentation of compliance with Praxis and edTPA requirements.
4. We are working with Educational Testing Services (ETS) to ensure that test centers will be open. ETS has informed us that if individuals are registered at centers that close because of COVID-19, it will contact those individuals so that they can test elsewhere.
5. We are working with Pearson to ensure that candidates can meet edTPA requirements if either of the options indicated in Item 2 above is documented.

If you have questions that we have not answered, please send them to Dr. Meyer via jmeyer@alsde.edu. We will respond as quickly as possible. Thank you for your cooperation as we work through this complicated situation.

EGM/JAM/SG

cc: City and County Superintendents Mrs. Jessica Sanders Mrs. Shavon H. Cummings
Dr. Daniel Boyd Dr. Jayne A. Meyer Dr. Deanise F. Peacock

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