



Illinois  
State Board of Education

Good morning!

Educator preparation providers have ISBE's support in working through school closures for COVID-19 that may impact student teaching. We encourage programs to be flexible in these circumstances so that student teaching candidates do not face an additional licensure barrier by having to repeat student teaching the following semester.

Illinois Administrative Code does not prescribe a specific number of hours for student teaching. Therefore, in an extenuating circumstance such as a temporary school closure, each institution may determine if the length of student teaching that is completed by the candidate has sufficiently prepared the candidate for licensure. IHEs should also think of innovative ways that the candidate may be able to obtain additional experience, if needed, in the classroom (e.g. looking into alternative sites for student teaching, completing part of the student teaching via a "virtual classroom" experience, or supplementing student teaching with shorter, clinical placements to allow for additional experience in lesson planning/classroom management/etc. to be earned.)

Pearson has provided guidance for collecting edTPA evidence when participating in a virtual classroom setting, which includes information on requesting alternative arrangements if the setting does not provide the opportunity to collect evidence in the standard format. You can find the information here:

[http://www.edtpa.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN\\_PlacementInAVirtualSetting.html](http://www.edtpa.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_PlacementInAVirtualSetting.html)

Note that some institutions may have established a specific number of hours that must be completed for student teaching. This internal policy at your IHE could be adjusted at your discretion in this situation.

Please reach out to the prep team or myself if you have any additional questions.

Emily

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Educator Effectiveness Department