What’s All the Fuss About?
edTPA for Beginners

Mary Ariail, Ph.D.
Department of Middle and Secondary Education
Georgia State University

Technical Assistance Event
December 3, 2014
Middle Georgia College
a.k.a.
“edTPA for Dummies”

“edTPA 101”

or

“Everything you wanted to know about edTPA, but had no idea what to ask”
Why is everyone talking about edTPA?

- The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) voted to adopt new Certification Rules on April 10, 2014.
- Most of the new rules took effect on July 1, 2014.
- One new rule requires teacher candidates who complete student teaching in Fall 2015 or later to earn a passing score on the edTPA before they can become eligible for an induction teaching certificate in Georgia.
What’s happening in Georgia?

- Across the state, Educator Program Providers (EPP’s) are examining and preparing their curriculum and program frameworks to ensure that their candidates are prepared to complete the assessment successfully.

- EPP’s and numerous state agencies (GaPSC, DOE, BOR) are reaching out to P-12 partners to increase awareness of edTPA and to create more meaningful and effective partnerships that support pre-service and novice teachers.
Well, what IS the edTPA?

- edTPA is a pre-service assessment process designed by educators to answer the essential question: "Is a new teacher ready for the job?"
- edTPA includes a review of a teacher candidate's authentic teaching materials as the culmination of a teaching and learning process that documents and demonstrates each candidate's ability to effectively teach his/her subject matter to all students.
Task 1 – Planning for Instruction and Assessment

- Part A – Context for Learning
- Part B – Lesson plans (3-5)
- Part C – Instructional materials
- Part D – Assessments
- Part E – Planning Commentary
Task 2 – Instructing and Engaging Students in Learning

- Part A – Video clip(s) of teaching
- Part B – Instruction commentary
Task 3 – Assessing Student Learning

• Part A – Student work samples
• Part B – Evidence of feedback
• Part C – Assessment Commentary
• Part D – Evaluation Criteria
Task 4 – Assessing Students’ Mathematics Learning (Elem Ed only)

- Part A: Mathematics Context for Learning Information
- Part B: Learning Segment Overview
- Part C: Mathematics Assessment
- Part D: Evaluation Criteria
- Part E: Student Mathematics Work Samples
- Part F: Examples of Student Work from Re-engagement Lesson
- Part G: Mathematics Assessment Commentary
Academic Language

- TC’s must understand how language is used in their specific discipline and be able to explain their use of the language in the learning segment.
- TC’s are asked to identify the relevant vocabulary, language function, and language demands.
How is the edTPA assessed?

- There are 13-18 rubrics (most handbooks have 15) used to assess the candidates’ work.
- Formative assessments are provided throughout the program, including local evaluation of candidates’ work by program faculty.
- Final portfolio is submitted to Pearson for official scoring.
- Official scores are provided to the TC, the EPP, and the state.
What is the cutoff score for passing the edTPA?

- Not yet determined for GA; currently collecting data to determine the cutoff.
- For 15-rubric handbooks, highest possible score is 75; scores of all 3’s is 45.
- Most EPP’s in the state are in the “Implementation” phase of preparation.
- The GaPSC has used some RT³ funds to provide vouchers for TC’s in Fall 2014 – Spring 2015.
- The cutoff will be set in early summer after EPP’s have submitted the trial portfolios.
How can schools/mentor teachers help teacher candidates succeed?

- Help teacher candidates obtain parental permission to video-record in the classroom.
- Help TC’s gain access to IEP/504 plan information.
- Become familiar with the edTPA requirements and rubrics.
- Help TC understand how the criteria relate to the specific context.
- Model and support good teaching practices.
- Consider co-teaching model of instruction.
- Observe TC’s and offer constructive feedback.
How can I get more information?

- Information/resources for faculty: [www.edtpa.aacte.org](http://www.edtpa.aacte.org) (will need to create account and gain approval to access Resources)
- Information/resources for candidates and faculty: [www.edtpa.com](http://www.edtpa.com)
- Resources for Educator Program Providers (EPP’s): [www.livetext.com](http://www.livetext.com) with Visitor Pass: 2C5CA4C6
Contact Information

Mary Ariail
Georgia State University
(404) 413-8382
mariail@gsu.edu
Questions?