What's All the Fuss About? edTPA for Beginners

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a.k.a.
"edTPA for Dummies"

"edTPA 101"

or

"Everything you wanted to know about edTPA, but had no idea what to ask"

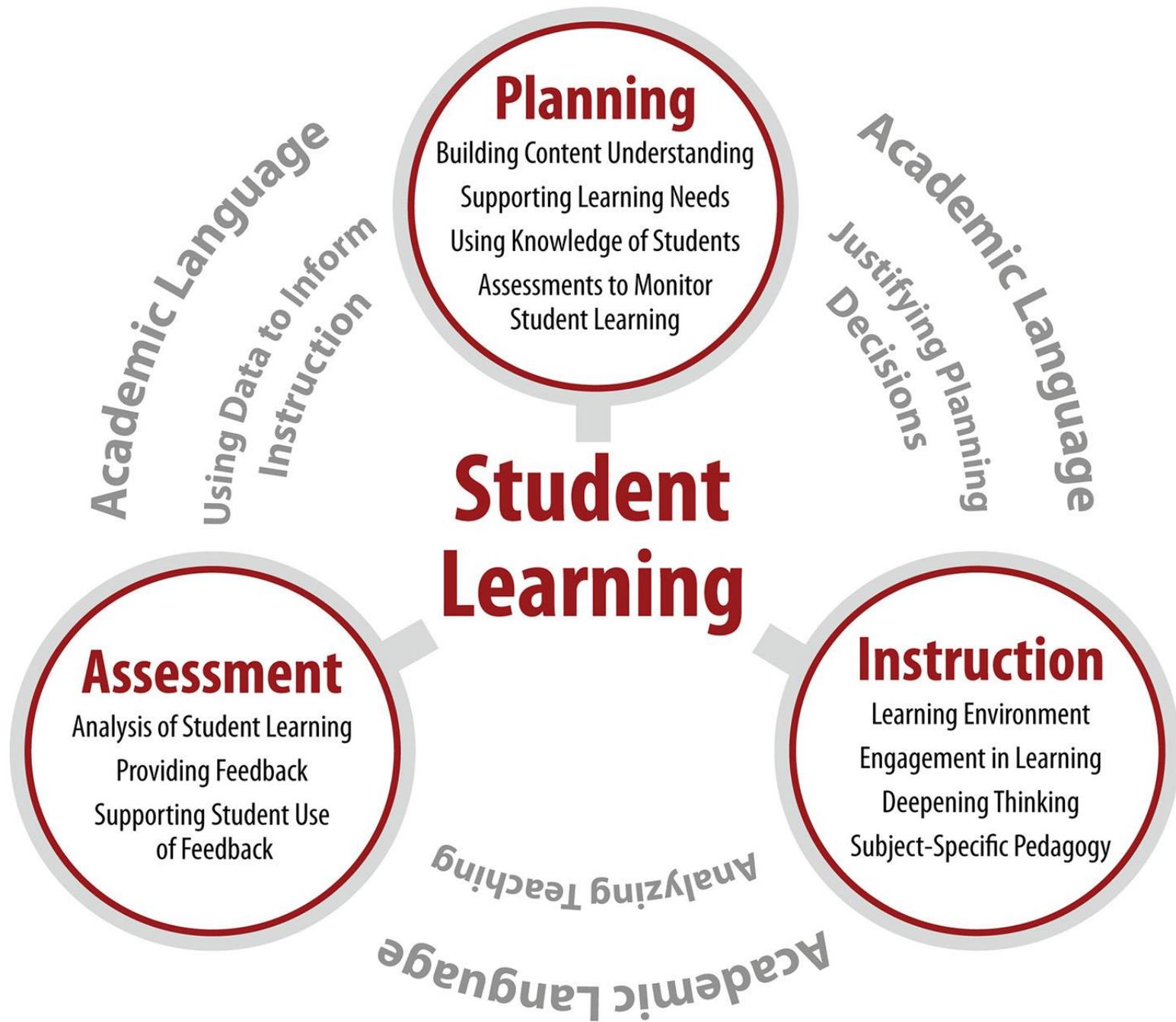# Why is everyone talking about edTPA?

- 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 RT^3 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 (will need to create account and gain approval to access Resources)

- Information/resources for candidates and faculty: www.edtpa.com

- Resources for Educator Program Providers (EPP's): www.livetext.com with Visitor Pass: 2C5CA4C6

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Questions?