

New Business Item 23-33

Introduced March 15, 2024

Approved March 15, 2024

TITLE: Teacher Candidates Clinical Experience Criteria for Initial Licensure in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) maintains that teacher candidates should be prepared in the appropriate content area for which they are seeking licensure. This New Business Item (NBI) will take effect on January 1, 2025.

Teacher candidates seeking licensure in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) should be placed in a TESOL classroom with a Cooperating Teacher that is licensed in TESOL and teaching in the appropriate grade levels.

When a TESOL classroom with a licensed TESOL teacher is not available, a teacher candidate may complete their clinical experience, field practicum, or student teaching using the following placement criteria.

Placement Criteria:

- TESOL teacher candidate must be enrolled in an Educator Preparation Program (EPP) approved by HTSB to recommend in TESOL.
- TESOL teacher candidate must have students in their classroom that have been identified by a [WIDA](#) Screener (formerly World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment) with a WIDA score of 5 or less.
- TESOL teacher candidate is required to complete a minimum of 450 hours in the grade level in which they will be recommended for TESOL licensure as outlined in [NBI 12-27 Revised](#).
- TESOL teacher candidate seeking licensure in TESOL P-12 or K-12 must complete their clinical experience in an elementary **AND** secondary setting.
- Cooperating teacher of a TESOL teacher candidate must hold a valid Standard or Advanced License from HTSB.
- Cooperating teacher of a TESOL teacher candidate must meet the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) [Sheltered Instruction Requirements](#).
- Cooperating teacher of TESOL teacher candidate must be a Hawai'i Qualified Teacher (HQT) in the subject area and grade levels they are teaching.
- The EPP must submit an action plan to HTSB detailing how the teacher candidate will be supported through frequent observations and instructional coaching by a licensed TESOL educator at the school, complex area, district, or state level.

All HTSB EPPs approved to recommend in TESOL and would like to use this NBI will need to submit a written request for each teacher candidate to HTSB prior to the start of their clinical experience, field practicum, or student teaching. Each written request will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Processing of a request may take up to sixty (60) days.

This NBI will be evaluated annually. The HTSB will collect and analyze data verifying the number of licensed TESOL holders working in Hawai'i. HTSB approved EPPs that use the option outlined in this NBI will make a concerted

effort to build partnerships with schools with appropriate TESOL classroom settings and TESOL licensed cooperating teachers.

Rationale/Background:

Currently, there is a limited number of TESOL settings and Cooperating Teachers licensed in TESOL. This NBI is to support Hawai'i EPPs who are approved to recommend in TESOL. Some Hawai'i EPPs are encountering challenges finding TESOL placements and Cooperating Teachers with a TESOL license.

Cost:

No cost. Notification to the EPP regarding the Board's decision is included in the current staff job duties/responsibilities.

Submitted by: Branden Kawazoe

Referred to: Teacher Education Committee

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All HTSB EPPs approved to recommend in TESOL and would like to use this NBI will need to submit a written request for each teacher candidate to HTSB ~~no later than sixty (60) days~~ prior to the start of their clinical experience, field practicum, or student teaching. Each written request will be approved on a case-by-case basis. **Processing of a request may take up to sixty (60) days.**

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