

NYSED

Guidance for Educator Preparation Programs on Clinical Experiences and Certification Impacted by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

March 30, 2020

Summary of Key Points

- **Clinical experiences include:** student teaching, residencies, practica, field experiences prior to student teaching, leadership experiences, school counseling supervised internship hours.
- As much as possible, IHEs should continue to work with their candidates and with P-12 schools and cooperating teachers.
- Use various distance education methods and technologies to complete students' clinical experiences:
 - Clinical simulations
 - Analysis of videos of best practices focused on pedagogical core requirements (planning, instruction, data driven assessment)
 - Assistance to cooperating teacher with their remote or virtual learning
 - Development of lesson plans and materials for P-12 classrooms
 - Questions about the materials
 - Development of assessments of student learning
- Develop and file a plan with OCUEdaps@nysed.gov by April 30, 2020, outlining the alternative models of clinical experiences the EPP will employ with their candidates to ensure that they receive clinical experience that will help them prepare for future success as educators.
 - Provide a list of candidates by program and clinical experience.
 - NYSED will neither approve or disapprove Alternative Model Plans but use as documentation for COVID-19.
- edTPA
 - Complete the edTPA if there is sufficient data or take the Assessment of Teaching Skills-Written (ATS-W).
 - Send list of names of candidates who will be taking the ATS-W.
- Certification exams
 - If test centers remain closed beyond May 1, 2020, NYSED will exempt candidates whose student teaching, leadership experience, or other clinical experience in spring 2020 has been impacted by COVID-19.
 - List of students must be sent to the Office of Teaching Initiatives (OTI) at otiaadmin@nysed.gov
- Student teaching grade level distribution
 - Use professional discretion related to determining whether candidates have developed the expected knowledge and skills during their clinical experience and develop a plan for alternatives models of clinical experience:
 - Have candidates view and evaluate previously recorded teaching videos.
 - Participate in online classroom simulations.
 - Engage online with their cooperating teachers who continue to provide classroom instruction.
- If the original cooperating teacher/clinical site supervisor (i.e., school counseling, educational leadership) chooses not to continue with a student teaching/counseling/EDL candidate, use alternative clinical experiences.