2018-2019

Dear Cooperating Teacher,

Thank you for your continued support of teacher education at Illinois State University! We know that we could not prepare great teachers without you! As of September 1st, 2015, teacher candidates in Illinois must successfully pass the edTPA in their initial licensure area to gain teacher certification. As a performance-based assessment, the edTPA is designed to engage candidates in demonstrating their understanding of teaching and student learning in authentic, experiential ways. The edTPA is modeled after the National Board Certified Teacher process and originated from extensive work done at Stanford University. As participants in the assessment, candidates have the opportunity to develop a collection of materials that represent the ways in which they teach students. The edTPA presents a clear statement of what constitutes the core of effective beginning teaching.

In order to complete this assessment, teacher candidates will need to video record a series of 3-5 lessons of themselves teaching during their time with you. As a part of this requirement, candidates will:

- describe, analyze, and evaluate the series of lessons
- submit evidence of how instruction was planned and implemented to develop student learning that includes student work samples and video clips of their teaching
- manage the permission process required of the edTPA working within school and district parameters

We value and appreciate all that you do to mentor ISU teacher candidates. Your professional expertise and continued support is invaluable to the development of their professional identities. We appreciate your willingness to allow this state required assessment to take place in your classroom. Please be assured that the edTPA is completed by the teacher candidate and should not add to your workload or that of others in your building. Further information about edTPA implementation at ISU can be found at [https://education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/gateways/edtpa.php](https://education.illinoisstate.edu/teacher/gateways/edtpa.php). If you have questions or would like to discuss this further, please contact Jill Donnel at 309-438-8769. We wish you a very successful school year!

Sincerely,

Deborah A. Garrahy, Ph.D. 
Professor and Director

Jill Donnel 
Interim Coordinator of edTPA

The Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center 
Illinois State University