



First and foremost, the entire staff and faculty at South Texas Transition to Teaching ACP hope that this notice finds you and yours in the best of health under these trying times.

We all find ourselves in a complex and rapidly evolving situation with issues being very fluid and changing, consequently we do not have all the answers to all of your questions but we can answer some of your most pressing questions.

As of today, the Governor's Office in Austin has issued the following waivers for teacher candidates;

1. Currently, the rule states that a candidate must be employed 180 days as a "teacher of record". As of now, the 30 day waiver is in place but expected to increase in the future as things evolve. Once we know the amount of days TEA ultimately requires, we will inform you all.
2. All requirements related to field supervision of candidates have been waived including the number, duration, timing and format of the observation.
3. Because teacher interns are district employees and subject to the requirements of that district, what qualifies as a full year will be dependent on what the district establishes as its modified calendar. **For interns who began the school year in August 2019 and who were scheduled to complete their year in May 2020, even if shortened, will have completed the year according to the current rule. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO LATE HIRES. If you were hired AFTER the school year began, (late October on) you must work the calendar year. (ex: November 2019 to November 2020) However you will not have to make up the days you miss this Spring and Summer as a result of the pandemic.**
4. The Governor has also waived the requirement for teacher interns to complete the end of the year survey regularly required of all new teachers.
5. Since Pearson (the testing vendor) has closed their testing sites it will prevent some teacher candidates to complete their testing requirements. Once the testing sessions resume, Pearson will not be able to meet the testing demand. **No definite response was available. TEA is working on a FAQ document that will address these concerns.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gilbert Gómez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Gilbert Gómez, M.Ed.

Program Director