

## Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

SPA Standards:

**Domain 1 – Language.** Candidates know, understand and use the major concepts, theories, and research related to the nature and acquisition of language to construct learning environments that support ESOL students’ language and literacy development and content area achievement.

**1a. Describing Language.** Candidates demonstrate understanding of language as a system and demonstrate a high level of competence in helping ESOL students acquire and use English in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for social and academic purposes.

**1b. Language Acquisition and Development.** Candidates understand and apply concepts, theories, research, and practice to facilitate the acquisition of a primary and a new language in and out of classroom settings.

**Domain 2 – Culture.** Candidates know, understand and use the major concepts, principles, theories, and research related to the nature and role of culture and cultural groups to construct learning environments that support ESOL students’ cultural identities, language and literacy development, and content-area achievement.

**2a. Nature and Role of Culture.** Candidates know, understand and use the major concepts, principles, theories, and research related to the nature and role of culture in language development and academic achievement that support individual students’ learning.

**2b. Cultural Groups and Identity.** Candidates know, understand and use knowledge of how cultural groups and students’ cultural identities affect language learning and school achievement.

**Domain 3 – Planning, Implementing and Managing Instruction.** Candidates know, understand and use standards-based practices and strategies related to planning, implementing, and managing ESL and content instruction, including classroom organization, teaching strategies for developing and integrating language skills, and choosing and adapting classroom resources.

**3a. Planning for Standards-Based ESL and Content Instruction.** Candidates know, understand and apply concepts, research, and best practices to plan classroom instruction in a supporting learning environment for ESL students. Candidates serve as effective English-language models, as they plan for multilevel classrooms with learners from diverse backgrounds using standards-based ESL and content curriculum.

**3b. Managing and Implementing Standards-Based ESL and Content Instruction.** Candidates know, manage, and implement a variety of standards-based teaching strategies and techniques for developing and integrating English listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and for accessing the core curriculum. Candidates support ESOL students in accessing the core curriculum as they learn language and academic content together.

**3c. Using Resources Effectively in ESL and Content Instruction.** Candidates are familiar with a wide range of standards-based materials, resources, and technologies, and choose, adapt, and use them in effective ESL and content teaching.

**Domain 4 – Assessment. Candidates understand issues of assessment and use standards-based assessment measures with ESOL students.**

**4a. Issues of Assessment for ESL.** Candidates understand various issues of assessment (e.g. cultural and linguistic bias, political, social, and psychological factors) in assessment, IQ, and special education testing (including gifted and talented); the importance of standards; and the difference between language proficiency and other types of assessment (e.g. standardized achievement tests of overall mastery), as they affect ESOL student learning.

**4b. Language Proficiency Assessment.** Candidates know and use a variety of standards-based language proficiency instruments to inform their instruction and understand their uses for identification, placement, and demonstration of language growth of ESOL students.

**4c. Classroom-Based Assessment for ESL.** Candidates know and use a variety of performance based assessment tools and techniques to inform instruction.

**Domain 5 – Professionalism. Candidates demonstrate knowledge of the history of ESL teaching. Candidates keep current with new instructional techniques, research results, advances in the ESL field, and public policy issues. Candidates use such information to reflect upon and improve their instructional practices. Candidates provide support and advocate for ESOL students and their families and work collaboratively to improve the learning environment.**

**5a. ESL Research and History.** Candidates demonstrate knowledge of history, research, and current practice in the field of ESL teaching and apply this knowledge to improve teaching and learning.

**5b. Partnerships and Advocacy.** Candidates serve as professional resources, advocate for ESOL students, and build partnerships with students' families.

**5c. Professional Development and Collaboration.** Candidates collaborate with and are prepared to serve as a resource to all staff, including paraprofessionals, to improve learning for all ESL students.