**Suggestions for Video Recording for edTPA**

Video Quality

There is **no** requirement or expectation for you to create a professional-quality production. The use of titles, opening and closing credits accompanied by music or special effects are best left to Hollywood as scorers will be entirely interested in what the video shows you and your students doing within the learning segment. It is not necessary to be technically perfect; it is important, however, that **the quality of the videotaped activities be sufficient for scorers to understand what happened in your classroom**.

Steps for Successful Video Recording of Your Learning Segment

\* **Make arrangements** for the necessary video/audio equipment well in advance. If you do not have access to video equipment, consider contacting peers, family, your cooperating/master teacher or university supervisor; or technology staff or students within your program’s institution knowledgeable about video;

\* **Advise your cooperating/master teacher and the principal at your school of your need to video record** lessons for your learning segment. NYSED Commissioner John King sent a letter to ALL school district superintendents in the state informing them that although it is often unnecessary, discuss any arrangements for a camera operator with them. If you use a camera operator, look to people who already have approval to be in classrooms, e.g., your cooperating teacher, your university supervisor, designated student helpers.

\* **Collect the necessary consent forms from students**. This is a professional responsibility that should not be ignored. Respecting students’ privacy as well as protecting yourself and your cooperating teacher are important concerns.

\* **Location. Location. Location**. Think about where you and your students will be located in the classroom during the activities to be portrayed in the video. What evidence do the rubrics call for that the camera will need to capture? Where will the camera/mics need to be placed in order to optimize sound quality? Try to plan ahead and minimize the need for a camera operator by scouting locations in advance. If you do need a camera operator, meet in advance to share the lesson plan and video needs.

\* **Practice the video recording process BEFORE the learning segment**. This will provide a chance to test the equipment for sound and video quality as well as give your students an opportunity to grow accustomed to the camera.

\***Try to record the ENTIRE set of lessons.** This will provide you with plenty of footage to choose the segment that best provides the evidence called for in the rubrics.

\* **Be natural.** While recording, try to forget the camera is there (this is good to explain to your students as well) and teach like you normally do. If using a camera operator, advise them not to interject themselves into the lesson in any way.

Software and Equipment Considerations

edTPA has not required any particular software, cameras or editing equipment although there are formatting requirements outlined in the evidence chart in the handbooks. An expensive camera is not necessary for the demands of this assessment. Several low-end cameras potentially produce a picture and sound quality that is suitable for this lesson. However, certain situations (groupings where the students clip is continuous without any edits. Use a program like Windows Movie Maker or Apple’s IMovie software to prepare and save the clip(s) in the format required in your edTPA handbook.

When editing your video clip, it is best to use the free software that comes with your computer. PC's have the program Windows Movie Maker (found in the START menu under PROGRAMS) while Macs provide you with iMovie. There are many online tutorials that will support you in learning how to use these programs:

**Tutorials for using Windows Movie Maker to edit your video**

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-vista/Getting-started-with-Windows-Movie-Maker>

**Tutorials for using IMovie to edit your video**

<http://desktopvideo.about.com/od/imovievideotutorials/iMovie_Video_Tutorials_Learn_How_to_Use_iMovie_From_Video_Tutorials.htm>