

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (COE)

The mission of the College of Education at Texas A&M International University is to provide a comprehensive and coherent professional development system for educators which links all aspects of the education profession. Through educational experiences provided by the professional development system, educators will be prepared to provide learner-centered instructional experiences that will promote excellence and equity for all students. Faculty in the College of Education are committed to accomplish this mission through: collaboration with colleagues across the university community and the public schools; the use of reflective teaching practices; research that enhances knowledge about teaching and learning; and service to the community of educators in the region.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES:

See [Academic Regulations - Undergraduate](#) for specific TAMIU regulations.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

In order to graduate from the College of Education, all students must complete the program with:

- an institutional GPA of 2.7 in the specialization/major;
- all program/specialization/major “F”s retaken;
- all incomplete grades converted to a “C” or better; and
- all holds removed.

Important notice: As the State Board for Educator Certification makes changes in the certification framework, degree plans may be subject to change. Any changes made by the state in interpreting the rulings on educator certification programs in Texas may supersede the requirements of the existing degree plan, certification or deficiency plan, with or without notice in this catalog.

GRADING POLICIES

The College of Education has adopted the following grading scale:

A	93-100
B	84-92
C	75-83
F	Below 75
S/CR/P	Satisfactory/credit/pass
U/NC	Unsatisfactory (no credit)
IP	In Progress
W	Dropped or withdrawn
I	Incomplete

EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

The College of Education Educator Preparation Programs are rated by the State Board for Educator Certification. Accreditation status is based on accountability standards as established by the Texas Education Agency.

Most recent Title II accountability data is available at the following website:
<http://title2.ed.gov/View.asp>. Additional information is available upon request from the Teacher Certification Office.

Students may choose to work toward certification at the following levels: (1) Early Childhood through Grade 6, (2) Grades 4-8 Middle School; (3) Grades 8-12, Secondary; and (4) All-level. Students will complete, as part of their requirements, three Blocks of study. These Blocks - designated as Blocks I, II, and III - will be completed sequentially in the field and have unique admission related requirements.

Each Block is strongly field-based, requiring university preservice teachers, mentors, public school administrators, and University faculty to work collaboratively at designated campuses. University preservice teachers enrolled in the Blocks are assigned to mentor teachers at specified elementary or secondary public schools. Preservice teachers in Block I complete a minimum of four (4) hours per week of observation and teaching activities in their assigned classrooms. Preservice teachers in Block II complete a minimum of seven (7) hours per week of observation and teaching activities in their assigned classrooms. Preservice teachers in Block III complete a minimum of forty (40) hours per week for twelve (12) weeks in their assigned classroom/s.

MATRICULATION

Students interested in programs/majors/certifications must apply to the College of Education. Admission to the College is contingent upon meeting full admission requirements, which is a separate application process from the University's admission procedures. Acceptance to the University does not ensure acceptance into the College of Education. Students who are fully admitted to the College of Education will be eligible to enroll in 3000-4000 level education courses in their major. Full admission requirements are:

1. Application: Submit an application form (available at KL 434D) and a \$10.00 non-refundable fee for admission to the College of Education.
2. Courses: Complete all core curriculum coursework with a grade of "C" or better.
3. WIN Courses: Complete at least one Writing Intensive course at the 1000-2000 level.
4. University Seminar: Complete two University Seminar courses (UNIV 1101 and 1102). Students who transfer in with 60 or more credit hours are exempt from the UNIV requirement.
5. Assessment of Basic Skills: Complete one of the following basic skills test and pass with a minimal score as noted below:

	Reading	240	Math	250	Writing	240		
THEA								
COMPASS	Reading	86	Algebra	45	Writing Skills	59	Written Essay	6
SAT	Verbal	500	Math	500	Composite	1070		
ACT	Reading	19	Math	19	Composite	23		

Test scores obtained more than five years before applying for admission to the college will not be accepted.

6. Demonstrate Oral Proficiency in the English language.
7. Institutional GPA: Have an institutional GPA of 2.7. Students desiring entry into the undergraduate or certificate programs in Communication Disorders must have an institutional GPA of 3.0.
8. Foreign Language Requirement: Meet the University's Foreign Language graduation requirement. This may be demonstrated by:
 - a. completion of three years of high school study of a single foreign language with a minimum grade of 80 (3.0) at the end of the third year
or
 - b. earning a minimum grade of "C" in 6 SCH in one foreign language
or
 - c. CLEP or AP exam scores that award 6 SCH in one foreign language.
or
 - d. completion of two foreign language courses in one language with a "C" or better from the University's International Language Institute
or
 - e. completion of two American Sign Language courses with a "C" or better.

In order to register for 3000-4000 College of Education courses, students must maintain a 2.7 institutional GPA, a 2.7 semester GPA and a 2.7 GPA in the specialization/major. Students in the Communication Disorders program must maintain a 3.0 institutional GPA.

Students must earn a "C" or better in all education courses. Any student earning less than a "C" in a prerequisite course must repeat the failed course ***before*** enrolling in subsequent courses.

A student may enroll in the same undergraduate course a maximum of three (3) times in order to obtain a "C" or better. After the third unsuccessful attempt to earn a "C" or better in a course, the student must change program/major. When students change their program/major, all current program/major admission requirements must be met.

To be eligible to enroll in EDCI 4993 Student Teaching, students must fulfill the following:

- meet all the criteria for admission to educator preparation;
- have an institutional GPA of 2.7 ***and*** an institutional GPA of 2.7 in the specialization/major;
- complete all degree plan courses with a grade of "C" or better;
- pass the content/specialization/major TExES Certification Exams; and
- submit an application for Student Teaching in the office of the Director.

In the event that a student is denied admission to EDCI [4993](#), he or she may complete the BAAS degree.

CONTINUATION OF UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT FOR STUDENTS ADMITTED TO THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

STANDARDS OF PROGRESS

All students must maintain an institutional GPA of 2.7 or higher (3.0 for Communication Disorders majors) to remain in good standing and to graduate. Any student who receives less than a 2.7 GPA (3.0 for Communication Disorders) is subject to academic probation.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Once fully admitted to the College of Education, a student remains in good academic standing if the institutional and the program/major GPA is 2.7 or above (3.0 or above for Communication Disorders majors). A student is on academic probation if the institutional GPA falls below 2.7 (3.0 for Communication Disorders majors). Notification of academic probation is through the Dean's Office. Students on probation may be required to register for a limited course load.

ACADEMIC SUSPENSION

A student who is on probation and continues to receive less than an institutional GPA of 2.7 (3.0 for Communication Disorders majors) in a subsequent semester will be suspended by the College of Education. A student who has been suspended for academic reasons may not petition the College of Education for readmission until one long semester has elapsed. A student suspended for any reason will be subject to those criteria and guidelines specified in the University Catalog and required by the major, College of Education, and/or Texas Education Agency in effect at the **time of readmission**. When a student returns from suspension, the student **must enroll in and repeat** those courses in which the student earned a less than satisfactory grade, **before subsequent or new courses are taken.**

CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

For state approved programs leading to certification, as the state implements new requirements for certification, they will become compulsory at the time required with or without notice in this catalog. Students in these programs/majors have sole responsibility to comply with requirements for certification and to keep current with changes in certification requirements.

Students enrolled in certification programs will need to obtain a fingerprint clearance and may be subject to a criminal background check.

Before students may be recommended for taking the state certification exams, they must take and pass a practice exam with an acceptable score established by the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Education in the areas of certification sought.

BLOCK COURSEWORK

Once students are admitted into the College of Education, they may enroll in Blocks consisting of the Education courses required for teacher certification at the level they are preparing to teach. There are three Blocks which students must complete. These are described below for each certification level.

EARLY CHILDHOOD - 6 BILINGUAL SPECIALIZATION CERTIFICATION

Block I

EDCI	3301	Theory and Practice for Public School Teaching
EDBE	3322	Dual Language Assessment and Development

Block II

EDCI	3304	Methods, Management, and Discipline
EDDP	4324	Teaching Diverse Student Populations

Block III

EDCI	4993	Student Teaching
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BILINGUAL GENERALIST 4-8 CERTIFICATION

Block I

EDCI	3301	Theory and Practice for Public School Teaching
EDBE	3322	Dual Language Assessment and Development

Block II

EDCI	3304	Methods, Management, and Discipline
EDDP	4324	Teaching Diverse Student Populations

Block III

EDCI	4993	Student Teaching
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ALL LEVEL CERTIFICATION

Block I

EDCI	3301	Theory and Practice for Public School Teaching
EDCI	3302	Language Acquisition and Development

Block II

EDCI	3304	Methods, Management, and Discipline
EDDP	4324	Teaching Diverse Student Populations

Block III

EDCI	4993	Student Teaching
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EARLY CHILDHOOD - 6 GRADE AND ALL LEVEL CERTIFICATION

Block I

EDCI	3301	Theory and Practice for Public School Teaching
EDRD	3302	Language Acquisition and Development

Block II

EDCI	3304	Methods, Management, and Discipline for the Early Grades OR
EDDP	4324	Teaching Diverse Student Populations

Block III

EDCI	4993	Student Teaching
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MIDDLE SCHOOL (4-8) AND SECONDARY (8-12)

Block I

EDCI	3301	Theory and Practice for Public School Teaching
EDCI	3302	Language Acquisition and Development

Block II

EDCI	3304	Methods, Management, and Discipline
EDDP	4324	Teaching Diverse Student Populations

Block III

EDCI	4993	Student Teaching
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STANDARD CERTIFICATES

The Standard Early Childhood Certificate (Grades EC - 6)

Students seeking a standard certificate to teach in grades EC-6 in Texas must complete:

- (1) bachelor's degree;
- (2) eighteen to twenty-four (18-24) semester credit hours to develop a teaching specialization;
- (3) twenty-four to thirty-six (24-36) semester credit hours in the combination of subjects taught in early childhood through grade six (6); and
- (4) twenty-one (21) semester credit hours of Education course work, including EDCI [4993](#), which is nine (9) semester credit hours.

The Standard Early Childhood Bilingual Certificate (Grades EC-6)

Students pursuing Early Childhood Certification may choose to specialize in Bilingual Education. Students choosing this certification will complete the requirements outlined for the Early Childhood Certificate.

The Standard Middle School Certificate (Grades 4 - 8)

Students working toward certification to teach grades 4-8, may select from the following teaching specializations:

- Bilingual Generalist
- English Language Arts and Reading
- English Language Arts and Reading/Social Studies
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

Students will complete twenty-one (21) semester credit hours of coursework in Education courses. Courses for the teaching specialization will be defined by the respective college. For further information, students may contact the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences or the University Registrar.

The Standard Secondary School Certificate (8th-12th Grades)

Students working toward secondary teacher certification (grades 8-12) will specialize in a teaching field, following an Option I degree plan. Option I requires the completion of a minimum of thirty-six (36) semester credit hours in one academic field and twelve (12) semester credit hours of coursework in a supporting field. Students specializing in a Composite Teaching Field will follow an Option IV degree plan. Option IV consists of a minimum of forty-eight (48) semester credit hours in a composite teaching field. All students working toward secondary teacher certification will complete twenty-one (21) semester credit hours of Education coursework. Courses for the teaching specialization are defined by the respective college. Students should consult with an advisor in the appropriate college to determine the options and requirements for their academic field.

Eligibility to Take TExES Exams

Approval to take TExES Exams is based on the procedure and criteria listed below. These procedures and criteria apply to all students pursuing degrees with teacher certification, regardless of their catalog year.

1. **Good Standing.** The College of Education has specific requirements that are different and higher than those required by the University. An undergraduate student in good standing with the College of Education must have an institutional GPA of 2.7 or higher and an institutional GPA of 2.7 or higher in the specialization/major.
2. **Test Preparation Session and Practice Tests.**
 - A. Undergraduate students must complete six clock hours of test preparation and pass appropriate practice tests before receiving approval to take any TExES exam. Test Preparation Sessions will be scheduled and conducted by University faculty. Three (3) of these hours will be completed prior to applying for Block III.
 - B. Undergraduate students pursuing certification must **complete the appropriate practice tests to be approved to take the TExES exam.** Approval for practice tests will be through the Certification Office in the College of Education. Practice tests are administered in the Texas A&M International University Testing Center, by appointment only.
 - C. Students must pass the practice test with an acceptable score established by the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Education to be approved to take the corresponding State Exam.
3. **Exam Sequence.** Students seeking initial teacher certification must take TExES exams in the prescribed sequence noted below:
 - A. **Generalist/Content Exam in the specialization/major area.** The Generalist/Content Exam will be taken either prior to beginning Block II or during Block II, based on the following criteria:
 - i. Students who have completed 75% or more of their coursework in the specialization/major with an institutional GPA of 3.6 or higher will be eligible to take a practice test prior to beginning Block II. Students who are successful on the practice test with an acceptable will be eligible to take the TExES exam in the specialization/major.
 - ii. Students who have completed 75% or more of their coursework in the specialization/major with less than a 3.6 institutional GPA in the

specialization/major will take a practice test during Block II. Students who are successful on the practice test with an acceptable score will be eligible to take the TExES exam in the specialization/major.

- iii. **STUDENTS WORKING TOWARD BILINGUAL EC-6 OR 4-8 CERTIFICATION WILL TAKE THE EC-6 GENERALIST OR 4-8 GENERALIST AND THE BILINGUAL SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMS (EC-12). STUDENTS WILL NOT HAVE THE OPTION OF TAKING THE BILINGUAL EC-6 OR BILINGUAL 4-8 EXAMS. ALL STUDENTS MUST PASS THE TExES EXAM IN THE SPECIALIZATION/CONTENT AREA TO BE ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL FOR BLOCK III.**
- iv. Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test (BTLPT) (Required for Bilingual EC-6 and 4-8 certification). Students will take the BTLPT while enrolled in Block II. Students must have successfully completed all required Spanish courses prior to taking the BTLPT. STUDENTS PURSUING BILINGUAL EC-6 OR 4-8 CERTIFICATION MUST PASS THE BTLPT TO BE ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL FOR BLOCK III.

B. The Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR). Students will take the practice test for the PPR in Block III. To be eligible to take the PPR exam, students must pass the practice test with a score of 85% or higher. Students may register for the practice test after receiving three (3) hours of test preparation.

- 4. Taking a Second TExES Exam. Undergraduate students must pass the TExES Exam they have been approved to take **before attempting a second exam.**
- 5. **Intervention.** Students who fail a practice test or TExES exam will be required to complete an intervention designed to address domains/competencies on the exam which the student failed. Intervention will be carried out by faculty at Texas A&M International University. Students must successfully complete the intervention to be eligible to retake the practice test and the TExES exam they failed.
- 6. Students are responsible for correctly completing their TExES Registration forms online at www.texas.ets.org by the deadlines given in the online TExES Registration Bulletin. Students are required to pay for their exams online with a credit card.
- 7. **NOTE: THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION MAY GRADUATE STUDENTS BUT NOT RECOMMEND STUDENTS FOR CERTIFICATION WHO DO NOT MEET QUALIFYING CRITERIA.**