

## Undergraduate Procedures for Qualifying to Take TExES Examinations

To become a certified teacher in the State of Texas, all teacher candidates must pass exams specific to their licensure area. These include the following:

### ❖ EC-6 Certifications

Early Childhood to Sixth Grade Core Subjects:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #291 Core Subjects EC-6

Early Childhood to Sixth Grade Core Subjects with Bilingual Education certification:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #291 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #164 Bilingual Supplemental
- BTLPT #190 Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test (Spanish)

Early Childhood to Sixth Grade Core Subjects with English as a Second Language (ESL) certification:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #291 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #162 English as a Second Language Supplemental

All-Level Special Education certification candidate:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA
- TExES #290 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #161 Special Education EC-12

### ❖ 7-12/All Level Certifications

TExES 7-12 content area test for your field:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot plus one of the following:
  - TExES # 235 Mathematics
  - TExES # 238 Life Science
  - TExES # 231 English Language Arts and Reading
  - TExES # 233 History

All-Level Spanish certification:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #613 Languages Other Than English (LOTE – Spanish)

All-Level Art certification:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #178 Art

All-Level Physical Education certification:

Individual subject area tests (if need to repeat a section):

- 801 ELAR & Science of Teaching Reading
- 802 Mathematics
- 803 Social Studies
- 804 Science
- 805 Fine Arts, Health, Physical Education

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #158 Physical Education

All-Level Music certification:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 / EdTPA Pilot
- TExES #177 Music

**Please note the following:**

Per the Texas Education Agency (TEA) major changes are planned for the Core EC-6 subject tests and the PPR EC-12 (Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities) test. Candidates certifying AFTER January 1, 2021 will be required to take an additional certification test on the Science of Teaching Reading (STR) and the PPR EC-12 test which is currently a multiple-choice test may be replaced by the edTPA performance-based portfolio. Both proposed changes will add on additional expenses and require extra effort. Taking and passing your required certification exam as soon as possible is highly encouraged.

**Certification Exam Policy**

The Texas Education Agency allows teacher preparation programs to determine when candidates in their respective program may qualify/have demonstrated readiness to take the TExES exams. The Our Lady of the Lake Education Department has established the following guidelines and qualifications for teacher education candidates:

**Baseline Data**

- Once admitted into the TEACH program, candidates will be given a Certify Teacher access account and candidates must complete their Certify Teacher Practice TExES tests: Core EC-6 /Content test and specialization(s) as a means of collecting base-line data for the Education Department.
- Potential Bilingual Education certification candidates will receive access to Certify Teacher prior to admittance while in EDUC 3320 Foundations of Bilingual Education to assess their language aptitude/bilingual proficiency and provide support, interventions, and remediation.

Qualifying to be authorized to register for official TExES Certification Exams, candidates must:

- Demonstrate readiness on the appropriate Practice TExES test(s) with an overall score of 240=80%. – these include, the PPR exam, Content Area(s), Special Education, Bilingual test (s), and ESL exam; the Core EC-6 requires a score of 240 in EACH subject area

**Demonstrating Readiness Testing Options**

Certify Teacher Practice Test unless otherwise indicated:

- Core EC-6:** and/or Paper-Based Practice Test
- 7-12/All Level:** and/or Paper-Based Practice Test
- PPR EC-12:** and/or Paper-Based Practice Test,
- Bilingual Education Supplemental Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test (BTLPT)**
- ESL**
- Special Education:** and/or Paper-Based Practice Test

- Elementary Candidates (EC-6) are required to score 240/80% on the Certify Teacher Practice Test and at least 240/80% on EACH content area (Reading 801, Math 802, Social Studies 803, Science 804, & Fine Arts/Health/PE 805) in one test taking session. Demonstrating Readiness on individual subject areas will only be allowed when there are only 1-2 individual subjects the candidate has not previously demonstrated readiness.

- **All base-line assessments and/or practice tests must be taken in one sitting in a secure testing environment to better simulate an official testing experience (also taken in the order the test is in; no jumping from one subject area to another)**
  - Please note that each Practice TExES exam is timed (maximum 5 hrs.)
  - **Testing candidates are required to request authorization to take paper-based practice tests from the Education Department Certification Officer and register to take the authorized test(s) at the OLLU Testing Center by the assigned deadline.**
- d. Teacher candidates must be fully admitted into TEACH and meet the requirements above in order to be authorized to take any of the official certification exams.  
**Note:** Candidates under TEACH HOLD contracts will not be authorized to test, but will receive access to Certify Teacher.
- e. When candidates have demonstrated readiness on their Practice TExES exam, they should submit their Certify Teacher practice score report or Online Interactive practice test score report to the Certification Officer. NOTE: This includes teacher certification, and individuals re-taking an exam. Once student scores have demonstrated readiness, they will receive an email notification providing registration instructions for the official TExES certification exam.

### Preparation Plan

- a. A candidate who does not achieve the level required to demonstrate readiness (240=80%) on the Practice TExES exam must meet with the Certification Officer to review and develop their preparation plan.
- b. Preparation Plan may include:
- Follow through with Study Plan provided by Certify Teacher along with retaking the practice exam on the Certify Teacher site <http://www.certifyteacher.com>
  - Retesting of the Practice exam/content area using a paper-based practice test
  - Review Resource Book: *THE BIG YELLOW BOOK: Ultimate Guide to the TExES Core Subjects EC-6*
  - Test Anxiety Sessions
  - Content Review Sessions and/or ACE Tutoring Sessions
  - Review of Study Guides, Web Based Programs, and Texts
  - Pearson Interactive Practice Tests available at a cost of \$10: [Prepare/Interactive Practice Exams](#)
  - Private Tutoring outside of OLLU
  - Region 20 Test Preparation Service
- c. Upon completion of all components of their Preparation Plan, candidates will receive authorization to retest from the Certification Officer for the TExES practice exam they needed to demonstrate readiness.
- d. When candidates have demonstrated readiness on their Practice TExES exam with a score of 240/80% or better they will receive an email notification providing certification exam registration instructions.

### Registering for TExES Certification exams

- e. Effective September 1, 2018 Texas educator candidates will need to create a NEW Pearson testing account in order to register for TExES certification exams by logging into <http://www.tx.nesinc.com>,

clicking on “My Account” on the upper right hand corner of the page, selecting “Create an account now” and following the prompts.

To register for a certification exam, go to <http://www.tx.nesinc.com>, select “Register” and follow the instructions provided. You must have created a Pearson testing account and have your TEA ID number to register.

The Pearson Testing website also contains a variety of test preparation resources free of charge.

**\*Testing fees are due when registering for an official certification exam and are \$116 per exam with a test payment processing fee. Candidates have 170 days to schedule and take their exam. If they do not take it or withdraw their registration within 170 days their registration expires, and they will receive no refund or credit of any kind. Cash and checks of any kind are not accepted for payment.**

**NOTE:** Your driver’s license first and last name MUST match the name on your admission ticket. Consult [Pearson Testing Policies](#) regarding specific ID requirements/policy and test center rules.

### **Corrective Action Plan**

- f. If a candidate does not achieve a passing score on the official TExES certification exam, he/she must wait 45 days before attempting to test again. Candidates will meet with the Certification Officer, sign a 5 Testing Limit Letter of Understanding, and develop a Corrective Action Plan in conjunction with program faculty that may include:
- Additional login (6-10 hours) on Certify Teacher with the passing of a practice exam with a **minimum score of 260** on Certify Teacher site <https://www.certifyteacher.com>
  - Retesting of the Practice exam/content area using a paper-based practice test
  - Review Resource Book: *THE BIG YELLOW BOOK: Ultimate Guide to the TExES Core Subjects EC-6*
  - Test Anxiety Sessions
  - Content Review Sessions and/or ACE Tutoring Sessions
  - Review of Study Guides, Web Based Programs, and Texts
  - Pearson Interactive Practice Tests available at a cost of \$10: [Prepare/Interactive Practice Exams](#)
  - Private Tutoring outside of OLLU
  - Region 20 Test Preparation Service
  - Purchasing of 240Tutoring Services

### **Accommodations for Disabilities or Health-related needs**

- a. Teacher candidates who need accommodations for the practice TExES exams at the OLLU Testing Center must contact the Services to Students with Disabilities Office/SSD at least 30 days prior to the first diagnostic (practice) session to obtain official documentation. Official documentation from the Services to Students with Disabilities Office must be provided to the advisor and the OLLU Testing Center for accommodations to be provided. If a student applies for accommodations with TEA through Pearson, they must be already receiving accommodations from OLLU’s Services to Students with Disabilities Office.

**Contact Info: Sueltenfuss Library Rm’s 124 &125 Office (210) 431-4010 Appts (210) 528-7158 [ada@ollusa.edu](mailto:ada@ollusa.edu)**

- b. **Students should understand that TEA does not have to grant accommodations, and OLLU accommodations do not necessarily translate into TEA accommodations.**
- c. Candidates requesting accommodations for the official TExES certification exam must log into the Pearson website at [Pearson Alternative Testing Arrangements](#) to obtain information about requesting

alternative testing arrangements. Candidates must then submit the request form and the required documentation after registering for the test but PRIOR to scheduling a testing appointment for the test.

#### **Five Testing Attempts Limit**

- d. Beginning September 1, 2015, candidates will be limited to five attempts to take a certification test. The five attempts include the first attempt to pass the examination and four retakes. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is implementing this change to Texas Education Code §21.048 in response to House Bill 2205, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. For more information, please see the [Educator Certification Examination Retake Limit FAQs](#)

#### **Additional Resources**

- [Texas Education Agency \(TEA\)](#)

Approved EDUC and TECC:  
9/2019