

CERTIFICATION EXAM READINESS AND REMEDIATION POLICY

The Texas Education Agency allows teacher preparation programs to determine when Master of Arts teacher 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 Master of Art teacher education candidates:

BASELINE DATA

- a. During MAT Application process, applicants will be given a test preparation account (240 Tutoring) and applicants must complete their readiness/ practice TExES tests: Core EC-6 /Content test and specialization(s) as a means of collecting base-line data for the Education Department.
- b. Practice Content Test Deadline: **Prior to final admission.**

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

- c. 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

Master of Arts teacher candidates will not be eligible for an internship certificate unless they have passed all of their content certification exams

- a. **Prior to clinical teaching or internship** Master of Arts teacher candidates must demonstrate readiness. Master of Arts teacher candidates are expected to register for and pass the Content Exam and supplementals.
240 Tutoring Practice Test unless otherwise indicated:
Core EC-6
7-12 Content: Science or ELAR
Bilingual Education Supplemental
Bilingual Target Language
Proficiency Test (BTLPT) ESL
Special Education
- b. Elementary Master of Arts teacher candidates (EC-6) are required to demonstrate readiness with a score of 240/80% or better on the 240 Tutoring Practice Test and at least 240/80% or better 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 for an individual subject area will only be allowed when there are only 1 individual subject the candidate has not previously demonstrated readiness.
- c. 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)
- d. Please note that each Practice TExES exam is timed (maximum 5 hrs.)
- e. Master of Arts teacher candidates must be fully admitted into MAT and meet the requirements above in order to be authorized to take any of the official certification exams. Note: Candidates under Conditional Admittance MAT contracts will not be authorized to test but will receive access to 240 Tutoring. If a candidate does not demonstrate readiness, they must submit a remediation plan by September.
- f. When Master of Arts teacher candidates have demonstrated readiness on their Practice TExES exam, they should submit their 240 Tutoring practice score report to the Certification Officer. NOTE: Once student scores have demonstrated readiness, they will receive an email notification providing registration instructions for the official TExES certification exam from the certification officer.

EXTENDED READINESS PLAN

- a. A Master of Arts teacher 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. This plan will include deadlines to demonstrate readiness no later than the end of the semester in which the student is enrolled.

- b. Preparation Plan may include:
 - Follow through with Study Plan provided by 240 Tutoring along with retaking the practice exam on the 240 Tutoring site <https://study.240tutoring.com/courses>
 - Request one-month access to 240 Tutoring to complete the quizzes, flash cards, and study materials in order to take the practice test. If students score a 90% of 240 Tutoring, the company guarantees you will pass your certification exam.
 - Retesting of the Practice exam/content area using a paper-based practice test
 - Review Resource Book available through the Certification Officer
 - 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, Master of Arts teacher candidates will receive authorization to retest from the Certification Officer for the TExES practice exam they needed to demonstrate readiness.
- d. When Master of Arts teacher 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

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. Your driver’s license first and last name MUST match the name on your admission ticket. Failure to do so will result in denial of admission to take the test, which can result in a delay of testing and/or continuation in clinical teaching. Consult [Pearson Testing Policies](#) regarding specific ID requirements/policy and test center rules.
- d. Testing fees are due when registering for an official certification exam and are \$116 per TExES exam and \$136 for STR (293) 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. **REMEMBER you must demonstrate readiness to register for your content exam and supplementals, take the content exam and supplementals and pass content exam prior to Clinical Teaching or Internship.**