

University of Texas at Arlington
College of Education

Policy for Taking TExES Examinations
9/21/2016

Students living out of state will not qualify for Texas educator certification. Therefore, out-of-state students should check with the State Office of Education in their home state to determine if completion of a master's degree program or certification program at UT Arlington will lead to certification in their state.

Texas certification candidates must meet all Texas Education Agency requirements and obtain a satisfactory score, as determined by the program, on the screening mechanisms used to qualify to take the TExES examinations. Upon satisfactory performance on the screening mechanisms, the program coordinator will send a clearance communication, with instructions to request TExES examination approval to register, to the candidate. The UT Arlington College of Education assistant dean and certification officer receives the approval request from the candidate and will reply to the candidate with official information and instructions for registering for the appropriate TExES examination. Upon successful completion of all testing requirements and program and/or degree completion, candidates will be instructed to complete application for certification with the Texas Education Agency.

Texas State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) policy stipulates that candidates are allowed up to four re-takes of TExES certification examinations. If a candidate fails to pass a certification examination after five total attempts, he or she must apply to SBEC for an exception to this policy.

Candidates must pass all appropriate state exams and apply for the appropriate state certifications with the State Board for Educator Certification/Texas Education Agency within six months of the completion of their clinical/student teaching, practicum, or program.

Late Applications

If a student allows the six-month period to go by without passing all state exams and applying for certification, additional preparation will be required for recommendation for approval to test. This additional preparation may include one or more of the following:

- Re-taking and passing a TExES practice examination
- Completing instructional review modules
- Re-taking one or more courses approved by the program coordinator. This may involve being re-admitted to the university as a special program student.
- Re-apply for admission to the university and, upon acceptance, re-take the entire certification program. **This last option applies automatically to any former candidates who have waited four years or more to apply for and/or complete TExES certification testing.**

If fewer than four years have passed after program completion, the amount of additional preparation required for UT Arlington approval to take the TExES examinations after six months beyond program completion will be determined by the program coordinator in consultation with the department chair. Considerations may include the length of time since program completion, changes in program course content and field experience expectations, changes in TEA certification levels, and changes in TExES certification tests.