

Procedures for taking TExES Examinations

To become a certified teacher in Texas, all candidates must pass exams specific to their licensure area.

Early Childhood to Grade Six (EC-6) Certifications

The TExES CORE Subjects EC-6 exam includes five Subject Exams:

- TExES #901 ELA & Science of Teaching Reading
- TExES #902 Mathematics
- TExES #903 Social Studies
- TExES #904 Science
- TExES #905 Fine Arts, Health, Physical Education

EC-6 Core Subjects:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12
- TExES #391 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #293 Science of Teaching Reading

EC-6 Core Subjects with Bilingual Education Supplemental:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12
- TExES #391 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #293 Science of Teaching Reading
- TExES #164 Bilingual Education Supplemental
- TExES #190 Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test (BTLPT)

EC-6 Core Subjects with English as a Second Language (ESL) Supplemental:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12
- TExES #391 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #293 Science of Teaching Reading
- TExES #154 English as a Second Language Supplemental

EC-6 Core Subjects with Special Education Supplemental:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12
- TExES #391 Core Subjects EC-6
- TExES #293 Science of Teaching Reading
- TExES #163 Special Education EC-12 Supplemental

Grades Seven to Twelve (7-12) Certifications

TExES 7-12 content test for your subject area & TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12.

- TExES # 235 Mathematics
- TExES # 238 Life Science
- TExES # 331 English Language Arts and Reading
- TExES # 233 History
- TExES # 232 Social Studies (*MAT ONLY)

All-Level Certifications

All-Level Spanish certification:

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

All-Level Art certification:

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

All-Level Physical Education certification:

- TExES #160 Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12
- TExES #258 Physical Education EC-12

All-Level Music certification:

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

Student Services Certifications

TExES #151 Reading Specialist

TExES #252 School Counselor

Certification Exam Policy

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

Baseline Data & Testing Qualifications

Once admitted into the Teacher Education Admission CoHort (TEACH) program, the candidate will be given access to study materials and practice TExES test(s):

- Core EC-6/Content test and specialization(s) to collect baseline data for the Education Department.
- Bilingual Education certification candidates will receive access to study materials before admittance into Bilingual Education classes to assess their language aptitude/bilingual proficiency and provide support, interventions, and remediation.

To qualify for authorization to register for the official TExES Certification Exams, the candidate must:

- Demonstrate readiness on practice TExES test(s) with an overall score of **240 = 80%**. Tests include the **PPR** (Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities) exam, **Content Area(s)**, **Special Education Supplemental**, **Bilingual test (s)**, and **ESL exam**; the **Core EC-6** requires a score of **240** in **EACH** subject area. Elementary Candidates (EC-6) are required to score **240/80%** on the online practice test and at least **240/80%** on EACH content area (Reading 901, Math 902, Social Studies 903, Science 904, & Fine Arts/Health/PE 905) in one test-taking session. Demonstrating readiness in individual subject areas will only be allowed when there are only 1-2 individual subjects in which the candidate has not previously demonstrated readiness.
- All baseline assessments and/or practice tests must be taken in one sitting in a secure testing environment to better simulate an official testing experience (CORE exam must be taken in the order the test is in; no exceptions.)
- Please note that each practice TExES exam is timed (maximum 5 hrs.)

- Teacher candidates who reside in San Antonio, Texas, must take their practice TExES exams on campus. If they reside outside the San Antonio area, the candidate must coordinate with the Certification Officer to arrange a date and time for them to complete a practice exam in a proctored environment.
- Teacher candidates must be fully admitted into TEACH and meet the requirements above to be authorized to take any of the official certification exams.
- Demonstrate content knowledge with a passing score on all practice content exams before Clinical Teaching.

Study Material

- Students will have access to study materials up to a year after graduation. Should a candidate wish to extend their membership past graduation or use another resource at OLLU, they will be responsible for purchasing these resources.

Testing Support Plan

- a. A candidate who does not pass the official TExES exam the first time with a score of 240 (80%) or higher will meet with the Certification Officer to create and sign a Testing Support Plan. The candidate is required to complete **100%** of the **study plan** on Certify Teacher or 240 Tutoring and take the **practice** TExES exam again with a score of **260 or higher** to be released to take the official TExES exam.
- b. If a candidate does not achieve a passing score on the **official TExES certification exam**, they must wait **30 days** before attempting to take the test again. The candidate will meet with the Certification Officer to make and sign a Testing Support Plan.
- c. Testing Support Plan may include, but it not limited to:
 - Log an additional 6-10 hours of studying and earn a passing score on a practice exam with a **minimum score of 260**.
 - The candidate will be required to access study material for the content in which they did not pass the official TExES exam.
 - Complete the Testing support plan provided.
 - Retest of the Practice exam/content area.
 - Review resource Books available through the Certification Officer
 - Test Anxiety Sessions
 - Content Review Sessions and/or ACE (Academic Center for Excellence) Tutoring Sessions
 - Review of Study Guides, Web Based Programs, and Texts
 - Pearson Interactive Practice Tests (select few) available at a cost of \$10: [Prepare/Interactive Practice Exams – See Certification Officer for testing code.](#)
 - Private Tutoring outside of OLLU
 - Region 20 Test Preparation Service
- d. After completing all components outlined in the Testing Support Plan, the candidate will receive authorization from the Certification Officer to retest for the TExES practice exam, where they must show

readiness to be permitted to take the official TExES. Once student scores have demonstrated readiness, they will receive an email with registration instructions for the official TExES certification exam.

Registering for TExES Certification exams

- a. Effective September 1, 2018, Texas educator candidates will need to create a NEW Pearson testing account 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 (Texas Education Agency) ID number to register.
- c. The Pearson Testing website also contains various test preparation resources that are free of charge.
- d. **Testing fees are due when registering for an official certification exam.**
- e. 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 will expire. They will receive no refund or credit of any kind. Cash and checks of any kind are not accepted for payment.
- f. 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/policies and test center rules.

Exam Vouchers

Exam vouchers will be purchased for students enrolled in designated education courses. Vouchers will expire one year after the date they are purchased. Candidates who do not use their voucher before it expires will be responsible for paying their exam fees.

Five Testing Attempts Limit

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)

Accommodations Request Process

- a. A teacher candidate who needs accommodation for the practice TExES exams must contact the Accessibility Services Office at least 30 days prior to the first diagnostic (practice) session to obtain official documentation. Official documentation from the Accessibility Services Office must be provided to the advisor for accommodations to be provided. If a student applies for accommodations with TEA through Pearson, they must be already receiving accommodations from OLLU’s Accessibility Services Office.

Contact Info: Walter Center Suite 206

Office: (210) 431-4010

Appointments: (210) 528-7158

Email: ada@ollusa.edu

Website: [Accessibility Services](#)

- b. Students should understand that TEA does not have to grant accommodations, and OLLU accommodations do not necessarily translate into TEA accommodations.
- c. A candidate requesting accommodations for the official TExES certification exam must log onto the Pearson website at [Pearson Alternative Testing Arrangements](#) to obtain information about requesting alternative testing arrangements. The candidate must then submit the request form and the required documentation after registering for the test but **prior** to scheduling a testing appointment.