

## MASTER OF EDUCATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION & ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- This TEA accredited program is designed for current teachers to further their expertise and earn an additional or advanced certificate as a Reading Specialist
- Candidates will follow a thoughtfully designed course sequence that will prepare them for leadership in student services in diverse schools with diverse student populations.
- Candidates will earn 36-39 hours of graduate course credit
- Candidates will investigate pedagogical theories and innovative instructional strategies.
- Reading Specialist Candidates will have the opportunity to apply their knowledge and participate in two course that involve practicum experience.
- Courses will be offered through face to face, hybrid and/or virtual (synchronous) online classes. Most class meetings in the fall and spring semesters will be in the evenings and on weekends.
- Candidates are provided with individualized mentorship and guidance from faculty and staff.
- Candidates may be eligible for scholarship opportunities and the TEACH Grant.

### PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed OLLU application (no application fee)
- An earned baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution
- Minimum GPA of 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) on undergraduate work and a 3.0 for the last 60 hours
- Official transcripts from all regionally accredited colleges and universities where degrees were conferred
- A personal statement
- Two recommendations: academic or personal sources (request through application)
- Resume
- FERPA Consent to Release Education Records and Information Form-Written consent release of test records to certification officer and program faculty
- Teacher Service Record
- Any other materials requested through application (based on concentration)
- Interview arranged by the department (if necessary)
- All applicants who did not complete an undergraduate or graduate degree at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States that are reflective of the language skills that teachers need are required to provide minimum scaled scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-based (TOEFL iBT) of 24 for speaking, 22 for listening, 22 for reading and 21 for writing (TAC 230.11).
- \$10 fee for a criminal background check and \$35 TEA technology fee will be required once admitted; if applicant feels there is something in their background that may hinder a placement/certification, it is recommended that a background check be completed prior to admission.