Chapter 230. Professional Educator Preparation and Certification

Subchapter A. General Provisions

§230.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, Chapter 232 of this title (relating to General Certification Provisions), and Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates), shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Accredited institution of higher education--An institution of higher education that, at the time it conferred the degree, was accredited or otherwise approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating [Coordination] Board.

(2) Appropriate--Suitable for a particular purpose. The term denotes compliance with State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) rules and with SBEC procedures and policies posted on the Texas Education Agency website that are related to the stated particular purpose.

(3) Candidate--An individual who has been formally or contingently admitted into an educator preparation program; also referred to as an enrollee or participant.

(4) Certificate--Any educator credential issued by the State Board for Educator Certification under the authority of the Texas Education Code, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

(5) Certification class--A certificate, as described in §230.33 of this title (relating to Classes of Certificates), that has defined characteristics and includes the following: superintendent, principal, classroom teacher, school counselor, school librarian, educational diagnostician, reading specialist, and master teacher.

(6) Charter school--A Texas public school operated by a charter holder under an open-enrollment charter school granted either by the State Board of Education (SBOE) or commissioner of education, whichever is applicable, pursuant to Texas Education Code, §12.101, identified with its own county district number.

(7) Classroom teacher--An educator who is employed by a school or district [approved by the Texas Education Agency or by an open-enrollment charter school approved by the State Board of Education] and who [teaches], not less than an average of four hours each day, teaches in an academic instructional setting or a career and technical education instructional setting. This term does not include an educational [a teacher's] aide [Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) instructors, substitute] or a full-time [or part-time] administrator.

(8) Continuing professional education--Professional development required for the renewal of standard and/or lifetime [educator and professional] certificates that is designed to ensure improvement in both the performance of the educator and achievement of his or her students.

(9) Educator-- An individual [A person] who is required to hold a certificate issued under the Texas Education Code, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

(10) Educator preparation program--An entity approved by the State Board for Educator Certification to offer training and coursework that must adequately [to] prepare candidates for [an] educator certification and meet the standards and requirements of the board [certificate].

(11) Examination--A standardized test or assessment required by statute or State Board for Educator Certification rule that governs an individual's admission to an educator preparation program, certification as an educator, continuation as an educator, or advancement as an educator.

(12) Field supervision--An educator preparation program is responsible for the supervision of a candidate during student teaching, clinical teaching, internship, or a practicum. The supervision
includes monitoring candidates and providing them with constructive feedback to improve their professional performance based on the standards associated with the certificate being sought.

(12) Hearing impairment--As defined in the Texas Education Code, §21.048(d)(1), a hearing impairment so severe that the person cannot process linguistic information with or without amplification.

(11) High-quality professional development--Professional development that meets the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 United States Code, §7801 (2001, as amended) and its subsequent amendments.

(13) Initial certification--The first Texas educator certificate for a particular class issued to an individual as specified in §230.33 of this title (relating to Classes of Certificates) based on participation in an approved educator preparation program.

(14) Intern certificate--A type of certificate issued to a candidate who has passed all required content examinations and is completing requirements for certification through an approved educator preparation program.

(13) Internship--A one academic year (or 180 school days) supervised educator assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for internships, which may lead to completion of a standard certificate.

(14) Mentor--A certified educator who is assigned by the campus administrator and who has completed, within the past three years, mentor training provided by an educator preparation program, regional education service center, campus, or school district. Responsibilities of the mentor include, but are not limited to:

[(A) guiding, assisting, and supporting the beginning teacher in areas such as acquisition of instructional materials, classroom management, curriculum and instruction, district policy, parent involvement, and student assessment; and]

[(B) providing information to the educator preparation program regarding the progress of the beginning teacher seeking new certification.]

(15) Private school--A non-public school whose educational program has been evaluated by a regional accrediting agency and whose program has met and is maintaining certain educational standards.

(16) Probationary certificate--A type of certificate issued to a candidate who has passed all required examinations and is completing requirements for certification through an approved educator preparation program.

(17) Professional class--A term that refers to certificates for duties other than classroom teacher (e.g., superintendent, principal, school counselor, school librarian, educational diagnostician, reading specialist, and master teachers).

(18) Standard certificate--A type of certificate issued to an individual who has met all requirements for a given class of certification, as specified in §230.33 of this title (relating to Classes of Certificates).

(19) Teacher--An individual who is required to hold a certificate issued under the Texas Education Code, Chapter 21, Subchapter B.

(17) State Board for Educator Certification--The State Board for Educator Certification acting through its voting members in a decision-making capacity.

(20) Teacher of record--An educator who is employed by a school or district and who teaches in an academic instructional setting or a career and technical instructional setting not less than an average of four hours each day and is responsible for evaluating student achievement and assigning grades.

(21) Teacher service record--The official document used to record years of service and days used and accumulated under the state's former minimum sick leave program or the state's current personal leave program.
Subchapter B. General Certification Requirements

§230.11. General Requirements.
(a) The only credits and degrees acceptable for certification of educators are those earned from and conferred by accredited institutions of higher education. All credit hour requirements for certification are semester credit hours or their equivalent.
(b) An applicant for a Texas educator certificate must:
   (1) be at least 18 years of age;
   (2) submit to the criminal history review required by the Texas Education Code (TEC) §22.0831, not be disqualified by the TEC, §21.058, §21.060, or other Texas statute, and not be subject to administrative denial pursuant to §249.12 of this title (relating to Administrative Denial; Appeal) or a pending proceeding under Chapter 249 of this title (relating to Disciplinary Proceedings, Sanctions, and Contested Cases);
   (3) not be disqualified by federal law;
   (4) be willing to support and defend the constitutions of the United States and Texas;
   (5) be able to communicate, listen, read, write, and comprehend the English language sufficiently to use it easily and readily in daily communication and teaching. English language proficiency shall be evidenced by one of the following:
      (A) completion of an undergraduate or graduate degree at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States;
      (B) if an undergraduate or graduate degree was earned at an institution of higher education outside of the United States, including territories of the United States, evidence must be provided under procedures approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff that the primary language of instruction was English; or
      (C) verification of satisfactory scores on an English language proficiency examination(s) approved by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC);
   (6) successfully complete appropriate examinations prescribed in §230.21 of this title (relating to Educator Assessment) for the educator certificate sought; and
   (7) satisfy one or more of the following requirements:
      (A) complete the requirements for certification specified in this chapter, Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates), Chapter 239 of this title (relating to Student Services Certificates), Chapter 241 of this title (relating to Principal Certificate), or Chapter 242 of this title (relating to Superintendent Certificate), and be recommended for certification by an approved educator preparation program;
      (B) qualify under Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States or Territories of the United States);
(C) qualify under §230.105 of this title (relating to Issuance of Additional Certificates Based on Examination);

(D) qualify for a career and technical education certificate based on skill and experience specified in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area)); or

(E) qualify under Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from Other Countries). [or]

(F) qualify for certification under §230.39 of this title (relating to Temporary Teacher Certificates).


(a) Initial standard classroom teacher certificates that are not based on experience and preparation in a skill area shall require:

(1) a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education;

(2) completion of and recommendation by an approved educator preparation program (EPP) by the application and issuance deadlines for the certificate; and

(3) submission of passing scores on comprehensive examinations prescribed by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) as specified in §230.21 of this title (relating to Educator Assessment).

(b) Standard career and technical education certificates based on experience and preparation in a skill area shall require:

(1) a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. In the case of the trade and industrial education certificates, experience may be substituted for a bachelor's degree;

(2) preparation, experience, and/or licensure, certification, or registration in a skill area as described in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area));

(3) completion of and recommendation by an approved EPP by the application and issuance deadlines for the certificate; and

(4) submission of passing scores on comprehensive examinations prescribed by the SBEC as specified in §230.21 of this title.


(a) In the event of conflict with any other State Board for Educator Certification rule codified in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 7; policy, or procedure, this section and the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55, as amended, shall apply to the certification of military service members, military spouses, and military veterans.

(b) The application for certification of a military spouse, including an application based upon certification by a jurisdiction other than Texas that has certification requirements substantially similar to the Texas certification requirements, shall be processed as soon as practicable.

(c) As soon as practicable after the issuance of a one-year certificate, Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff shall notify, in writing or by email, a military spouse of the requirements for obtaining a standard Texas certificate.

(d) A military spouse's standard Texas certificate that has expired within five years preceding the spouse's Texas application date, while the military spouse lived outside Texas for at least six months, may be renewed by the military spouse.

(e) A military service member or a military veteran shall be entitled to credit verified military service, training, or education toward the training, education, work experience, or related requirements (other than
certification examinations) for educator certification. TEA staff and educator preparation programs shall use information from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs or other reliable source to assist in crediting applicable military service, training, or education to certification requirements.

Subchapter D. Types and Classes of Certificates Issued

§230.31. Types of Certificates.
(a) "Type of certificate" means a designation of the period of validity for a certificate and includes the following certificate designations:

(1) standard, as specified in subsection (c) of this section;
(2) provisional, as specified in subsection (b) of this section;
(3) professional, as specified in subsection (b) of this section;
(4) one year, as specified in §230.113 of this title (relating to Requirements for Texas Certificates Based on Certification from Other States or Territories of the United States) and Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from Other Countries);
(5) intern, as specified in §230.36 of this title (relating to Intern Certificates);
(6) probationary, as specified in §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates);

(b) All provisional and professional educator certificates issued prior to September 1, 1999, shall be valid for the life of the individual unless suspended, surrendered in lieu of revocation, or revoked by lawful authority.

(c) Effective September 1, 1999, the standard certificate shall be issued for all classes of certificates and shall be valid for five years, subject to the requirements of Chapter 232, Subchapter A, of this title (relating to Certificate Renewal and Continuing Professional Education Requirements). The standard certificate is issued to individuals who have met all requirements for a given subject area or class of certification.

(d) Effective September 1, 2017, the educational aide certificate shall be valid for two years. Educational aide certificates issued effective September 1, 2017, will expire at the end of the two-year validity period. Individuals issued an educational aide certificate prior to September 1, 2017, as well as new applicants for the educational aide certificate, will be required to reapply for certification every two years and meet any other requirements for the educational aide certificate as specified in §230.65 of this title (relating to Requirements for Reissuance of Educational Aide Certificates).

§230.33. Classes of Certificates.
(a) "Class of certificates" means a certificate with the following characteristics:

(1) specific job duties or functions associated with the certificate;
(2) standards established by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) for the issuance of the certificate; and
(3) comprehensive examination(s) prescribed by the SBEC, as specified in §230.21 of this title (relating to Educator Assessment) for the certificate.

(b) Classes of certificates include the following:

(1) superintendent;
(2) principal;
(3) classroom teacher (categories of classroom teaching certificates are described in Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates));

(4) reading specialist;

(5) master teacher;

(6) school librarian;

(7) school counselor; and

(8) educational diagnostician; [and]

(9) educational aide.

§230.35. Development, Approval, Implementation, and Evaluation of Teacher Certification Standards.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of the certification standards shall be to ensure the highest level of educator preparation and practice to achieve student excellence.

(b) Objectives. The objectives of the certification standards are:

(1) to establish the knowledge and skills required of an individual seeking certification in a particular subject area;

(2) to guide the design and delivery of educator preparation programs (EPPs); and

(3) to direct the development of certification examinations and other requirements for issuance of the certificate.

(c) Policy. The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) shall appoint an advisory committee to develop and recommend [approve] certification standards for approval that are based on the applicable Texas essential knowledge and skills (TEKS) adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE) and reflect current research-based practices and knowledge of the developmental stages of learning to promote successful outcomes and academic achievement from Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(d) Development. The SBEC shall develop the certification standards based on information provided by Texas educators, EPP representatives, parents, and citizens. Before approving standards for a certificate, the SBEC shall make the proposed standards available for public comment [from the public, the SBOE, and the commissioner of education].

(e) Implementation. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff shall be primarily responsible for implementing the certification standards approved by the SBEC by having certification examinations developed or recommended to the SBEC on the basis of such standards.

(f) Evaluation. The TEA staff shall periodically evaluate approved certification standards based, at a minimum, on any changes to the TEKS or the job functions and duties of the related certificate.

§230.36. Intern Certificates.

(a) General provisions.

(1) Certificate classes. An intern certificate may be issued for any class of certificate except educational aide.

(2) Requirement to hold an intern certificate. A candidate seeking certification as an educator must hold an intern certificate while participating in an internship through an approved educator preparation program (EPP).

(b) Requirements for issuance. An intern certificate may be issued to a candidate seeking certification as an educator who meets the conditions and requirements prescribed in this subsection.

(1) Bachelor's degree. Except as otherwise provided in rules of the State Board for Educator Certification related to certain career and technical education certificates based on skill and experience, the candidate must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of
higher education. An individual who has earned a degree outside the United States must provide an original, detailed report or course-by-course evaluation for all college-level credits prepared by a foreign credential evaluation service recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The evaluation must verify that the individual holds, at a minimum, the equivalent of a bachelor's degree issued by an accredited institution of higher education in the United States.

(2) General certification requirements. The candidate must meet the general certification requirements prescribed in §230.11 of this title (relating to General Requirements).

(3) Fee. The candidate must pay the fee prescribed in §230.101 of this title (relating to Schedule of Fees for Certification Services).

(4) Fingerprints. The candidate must submit fingerprints in accordance with §232.35(c) of this title (relating to Submission of Required Information) and the Texas Education Code (TEC), §22.0831.

(c) Conditions. The validity and effectiveness of an intern certificate is subject to the following conditions.

(1) Internship. The holder of an intern certificate must be a participant in good standing of an approved Texas EPP, serving in an acceptable, paid internship supervised by the EPP.

(2) Inactive status. An intern certificate will become inactive 30 calendar days after the holder's separation from the school assignment or the EPP. The unexpired term of an intern certificate may be reactivated if the holder satisfies the requirements specified in this section.

(3) Term of an intern certificate. An intern certificate shall be valid for one 12-month period from the date of issuance.

(4) Limit on preliminary certifications and permits. Without obtaining standard certification, an individual may not serve for more than three 12-month periods while holding any combination of the following:

(A) intern certificates, limited to one 12-month period maximum, as described in this subsection;

(B) probationary certificates, limited to two 12-month periods maximum, as specified in §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates);

(C) emergency permits as specified in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Permits); or

(D) one-year certificates as specified in Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States or Territories of the United States) and Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from Other Countries).

(5) Reduction in force exception. If an educator is employed under an intern certificate and is terminated or resigns in lieu of termination before the end of the school year due to a reduction in force, that intern term shall not count as one of the three years referenced in paragraph (4) of this subsection.

(d) Testing requirements for issuance of an intern certificate. Beginning September 1, 2017, a candidate must meet the subject matter knowledge requirements for issuance of an intern certificate to serve an internship in a classroom teacher assignment for each subject area to be taught.

(1) To meet the subject matter knowledge requirements to be issued an intern certificate for an internship in a classroom teacher assignment on or after September 1, 2017, a candidate must pass all of the appropriate certification content examination(s), as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter.

(2) To meet the subject matter knowledge requirements to be issued an intern certificate for an internship in a career and technical education classroom teacher assignment that is based on skill and experience on or after September 1, 2017, a candidate must satisfy the requirements for that subject area contained in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area)) and pass the appropriate content certification examination(s), as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter.
(e) Intern certificate in a certification class other than classroom teacher. An intern certificate may be issued for assignment as a superintendent, principal, reading specialist, master teacher, school librarian, school counselor, and educational diagnostician to an individual who meets the applicable requirements prescribed in subsection (b) of this section and who also meets the requirements prescribed in this subsection.

(1) An applicant for an intern certificate in a certification class other than classroom teacher must meet all requirements established by the recommending EPP, which shall be based on the qualifications and requirements for the class of certification sought and the duties to be performed by the holder of an intern certificate in that class.

(2) The individual must have also been:

   (A) accepted and enrolled to participate in a Texas EPP that has been approved to prepare candidates for the certificate sought; and

   (B) assigned in the certificate area being sought in a Texas school district, open-enrollment charter school, or, pursuant to §228.35 of this title (relating to Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training), other school approved by the TEA.

(3) The holder of an intern certificate in a certification class other than classroom teacher is subject to all terms and conditions of an intern certificate prescribed in subsection (c) of this section.

§230.37. Probationary Certificates.

(a) General provisions.

(1) Certificate classes. A probationary certificate may be issued for any class of certificate except educational aide.

(2) Requirement to hold a probationary certificate. A candidate seeking certification as an educator must hold a probationary certificate while participating in an internship through an approved educator preparation program (EPP).

(b) Requirements for issuance. A probationary certificate may be issued to a candidate seeking certification as an educator who meets the conditions and requirements prescribed in this subsection.

(1) Bachelor's degree. Except as otherwise provided in rules of the State Board for Educator Certification [SBEC] related to certain career and technical education certificates based on skill and experience, the candidate must hold [at least] a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education. An individual who has earned a degree outside the United States must provide an original, detailed report or course-by-course evaluation of all college-level credits prepared by a foreign credential evaluation service recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The evaluation must verify that the individual holds, at a minimum, the equivalent of a bachelor's degree issued by an accredited institution of higher education in the United States.

(2) General certification requirements. The candidate must meet the general certification requirements prescribed in §230.11 of this title (relating to General Requirements).

[3] Preparation program and assignment. The candidate's internship assignment must:

   (A) be supervised by an approved Texas EPP;

   (B) be in the subject area and at the grade level of certification sought or, if applicable, be in an assignment consistent with the professional class certification sought;

   (C) take place in a Texas school district, open-enrollment charter school, or other school approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for this purpose pursuant to §228.35(d) of this title (relating to Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training); and

   (D) if applicable, commence after the candidate for initial certification has met the pre-internship requirements specified in §228.35(a) and (c) of this title and the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.054;]
(3) Fee. The candidate must pay the fee prescribed in §230.101 of this title (relating to Schedule of Fees for Certification Services).

(4) Fingerprint. The candidate must submit fingerprints in accordance with §232.35(c) of this title (relating to Submission of Required Information) and the Texas Education Code (TEC) [TEC], §22.0831.

(c) Conditions. The validity and effectiveness of a probationary certificate is subject to the following conditions.

(1) Internship. The holder of a probationary certificate must be a participant in good standing of an approved Texas EPP, serving in an acceptable, paid internship supervised by the [an approved] EPP.

(2) Supervision and professional development. An EPP shall provide field supervision, as prescribed in §228.35 of this title, and high-quality professional development throughout the entire term of the internship, including all extensions of the initial term.

(3) Mentor. The EPP shall collaborate with the campus administrator to assign a campus mentor to each intern throughout his or her internship.

(4) Notice. An EPP must immediately notify TEA by email if the holder of a probationary certificate:

(A) resigns or is terminated from the school assignment for which a probationary certificate was issued; or

(B) is discharged or released from the EPP. In this case, the program must also notify the employing school district.

(2) Inactive status. A probationary certificate will become inactive 30 calendar days after the holder's separation from the school assignment or the EPP. The unexpired term of a probationary certificate may be reactivated if the holder satisfies the program enrollment and school assignment requirements specified in §228.35 of this title (relating to Preparation Program Coursework and/or Training, [subsection (b)(3) of this section.]

(3) Term of a probationary certificate. A probationary certificate shall be valid for a 12-month period from the date of issuance.

(7) Additional terms. A probationary certificate issued to an individual enrolled in a post-baccalaureate or alternative certification program for initial certification, or any program for professional class certification, may be extended for no more than two additional 12-month terms following the expiration of the initial term, subject to the following conditions.

(A) A probationary certificate may be issued for an additional 12-month term only if the Texas EPP recommends the additional term and certifies that the holder is making satisfactory progress toward standard certification.

(B) The EPP must provide supervision to the educator for the full term of any such additional probationary certificate, unless, prior to the expiration of that term, a standard certificate is issued to the educator.

(4) Limit on preliminary certifications and permits. Without obtaining standard certification, an individual may not serve for more than three 12-month periods while holding any combination of the following:

(A) intern certificates, limited to one 12-month period maximum, as described in this subsection;

(B) probationary certificates, limited to two 12-month periods maximum, as described in this subsection;

(C) emergency permits as specified in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Permits); or
(D) [ ...(4) ] one-year certificates as specified in Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States or Territories of the United States) and Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from Other Countries).

(5) [ ...(9) ] Reduction in force exception. If an educator is employed under a probationary certificate and is terminated or resigns in lieu of termination before the end of the school year due to a reduction in force, that probationary term shall not count as one of the two [three] allowed annual probationary terms.

(d) Testing requirements for issuance of a probationary certificate.

(1) Prior to September 1, 2017, a candidate must meet the subject matter knowledge requirements for issuance of a probationary certificate to serve an internship in a classroom teacher assignment for each subject area to be taught:

(A) At the elementary school level, by passing the appropriate content area certification examination(s), as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter (relating to Assessment of Educators), appropriate to the grade level and subject matter assignment(s) as prescribed in Chapter 231 of this title (relating to Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments).

(B) At the middle or high school level:

(i) by passing the appropriate content area certification examination(s), including the appropriate pedagogy and professional responsibilities examination, as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter, appropriate to the grade level and subject matter assignment(s) as prescribed in Chapter 231 of this title; or

(ii) by completing coursework that complies with the TEC, §21.050, and comprised of not fewer than 24 semester credit hours, including 12 semester credit hours of upper division coursework in the subject area(s) taught; or

(iii) in the case of career and technical education assignments based on skill and experience, by satisfying the requirements for that subject area contained in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience in a skill area)).

(C) A candidate who is the teacher of record in a special education assignment must meet the appropriate subject matter knowledge requirements prescribed in subparagraph (A) and/or (B) of this paragraph and pass the appropriate special education certification examination(s), as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter, appropriate to the assignment(s) as prescribed in Chapter 231 of this title. If a candidate has not passed the special education supplemental-examination prior to the beginning of an internship, an EPP may permit the internship assignment if:

(i) the EPP has developed a plan to address any deficiencies identified through the candidate's previous attempt(s) on the examination; and

(ii) the EPP implements the plan during the initial internship, an EPP shall not permit an additional internship if all examinations requirements are not met.

(D) A candidate who is in a bilingual education and/or English as a Second Language (ESL) assignment must meet the appropriate subject matter knowledge requirements prescribed in subparagraph (A) and/or (B) of this paragraph and pass the appropriate bilingual education and/or ESL certification examination(s), as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter, appropriate to the assignment(s) as prescribed in Chapter 231 of this title. If a candidate has not passed the bilingual education supplemental examination, ESL supplemental examination, or the bilingual target language proficiency test prior to the beginning of an internship, an EPP may permit the internship if:
(i) the EPP has developed a plan to address any deficiencies identified through the candidate's previous attempt(s) on the examination(s); and

(ii) the EPP implements the plan during the initial internship. An EPP shall not permit an additional internship if all examination requirements are not met.

(2) Beginning September 1, 2017, a candidate must meet all testing requirements for issuance of a probationary certificate.

(A) To meet the subject matter knowledge requirements to be issued a probationary certificate for an internship in a classroom teacher assignment, a candidate must pass the appropriate certification examination(s), including the appropriate pedagogy and professional responsibilities examination, as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter.

(B) To meet the subject matter knowledge requirements to be issued a probationary certificate for an internship in a career and technical education classroom teacher assignment that is based on skill and experience, a candidate must satisfy the requirements for that subject area contained in §233.14 of this title and pass the appropriate certification examination(s), including the appropriate pedagogy and professional responsibilities examination, as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter.

(3) Effective September 1, 2017, to meet the subject matter requirements for issuance of the probationary certificate in a certification class other than classroom teacher, the individual must pass the appropriate examination(s) for that certificate.

(4) The holder of a probationary certificate in a certification class other than classroom teacher is subject to all terms and conditions of an intern certificate prescribed in subsection (c) of this section.

(d) Traditional undergraduate preparation program internship.

(1) A candidate who has completed a bachelor's degree in a traditional teacher certification program at an accredited institution of higher education, but who has failed to meet the testing requirements necessary for issuance of a standard certification, may serve an internship under the supervision of the traditional undergraduate certification program.

(2) Such a candidate may be issued a probationary certificate for a period of one year. The traditional undergraduate certification program may not recommend any extensions of this term.

(e) Subject matter knowledge for classroom teaching assignments.

(1) To obtain a probationary certificate for a classroom teaching assignment, a candidate must demonstrate knowledge of each subject area to be taught.
[(A) at the elementary school level (Early Childhood-Grade 6), by passing an appropriate certification examination as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter (relating to Assessment of Educators);]

[(B) at the middle or high school level (Grades 7-12):]

[(i) by passing an appropriate content area certification examination as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter;]

[(ii) by completing coursework that complies with the TEC, §31.050, and comprised of not fewer than 24 semester credit hours, including 12 semester credit hours of upper division coursework in the subject area taught; or]

[(iii) in the case of career and technical education assignments based on skill and experience, by satisfying the requirements for that subject area contained in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area)); or]

[(C) for professional class probationary certificates, by meeting requirements established by the recommending EPP, which shall be based on the qualifications and requirements relating to the class of certification sought and on the duties performed by the holder of a probationary certificate in that class.]

[(2) The individual in a special education classroom teaching assignment must demonstrate both knowledge of special education and knowledge of each subject to be taught, as follows:]

[(A) at the elementary school level (Early Childhood-Grade 6):]

[(i) by passing a certification examination appropriate to the individual's grade level or subject matter assignment, as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter; and]

[(ii) by passing a special education examination; or]

[(B) at the middle or high school level (Grades 7-12):]

[(i) by either:]

[(I) passing a certification examination appropriate to the individual's subject matter assignment, as prescribed in Subchapter C of this chapter; or]

[(II) completing coursework comprised of not fewer than 24 semester hours, including 12 semester hours of upper division coursework in the subject area taught; and]

[(ii) by passing a special education examination.]

[(f) Probationary certificate for professional class certificates. A probationary certificate may be issued for a professional class assignment to an individual who meets the applicable requirements prescribed in subsection (b) of this section and who also meets the requirements prescribed in this subsection.]

[(1) An applicant for a professional class probationary certificate must meet all requirements established by the recommending EPP, which shall be based on the qualifications and requirements for the class of certification sought and the duties to be performed by the holder of a probationary certificate in that class.]

[(2) The individual must have been:]

[(A) accepted and enrolled to participate in a Texas EPP that has been approved to prepare candidates for the certificate sought; and]

[(B) assigned in the professional class certification area being sought in a Texas school district, open-enrollment charter school, or, pursuant to §228.35 of this title, other school approved by TExAS.]
The holder of a professional class probationary certificate is subject to all the terms and conditions of a probationary certificate prescribed in subsection (c) of this section.

§230.39. Temporary Teacher Certificates.

(a) A person may be temporarily certified to teach only in Grades 8-12 if the person:

(1) holds a bachelor's or advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education received with an academic major or interdisciplinary academic major, including reading, other than education, that is related to at least one area of the curriculum as prescribed under the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 28, Subchapter A;

(2) passes a criminal history background check by submitted fingerprints for review; and

(3) submits fingerprints in accordance with §232.35(c) of this title (relating to Submission of Required Information) and the TEC, §22.0831.

(b) A certificate issued under this section is valid for a term not to exceed two academic years.

(c) A person may receive a certificate to teach only in a subject area of the curriculum prescribed under the TEC, Chapter 28, Subchapter A, in which the person holds a bachelor's or advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education with an academic major related to that area of the curriculum. Guidelines for determining the academic major related to the current Grades 8-12 certificate structure will be developed by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff.

(d) A person who applies for a temporary teaching certificate under this section shall pay a fee equal to that required of applicants for a probationary certificate under §230.101 of this title (relating to Schedule of Fees for Certification Services).

(e) A person who holds a certificate under this section may be employed by a school district only if the person and the school district agree that the person will be employed under a probationary contract for each year of the person's employment with the district.

(f) A school district employing a person who holds a certificate issued under this section must provide the same coursework, mentoring, and training that is required by Chapter 228 of this title (relating to Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs), except that a certificate issued under this section shall require 380 total clock hours of training.

(g) A school district delivering the required intensive support for an educator holding the temporary teacher certificate must follow guidelines established by the TEA staff with evidence indicating the ability to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

(h) A school district may require that a person who will be employed by the district and who holds a temporary teacher certificate issued under this section complete a teacher training program.

(i) At the end of the two years of employment, the person must apply to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) for a standard certificate. The person must also be recommended by the current employing school district for certification. All employing school districts must provide evidence to the SBEC that each district complied with the requirements of subsection (f) of this section.

(j) A standard teaching certificate may be issued to a person under this section if:

(1) the person held a temporary teacher certificate issued under this section;

(2) the person has been continuously employed as a teacher of record in a school district for two academic years; and

(3) the employing district(s) has (have) favorably reviewed the person's performance, including classroom performance and performance in any teacher training program(s). Each school district must predominately base the review of a person's performance on the increase in achievement of his or her students.
§230.41. Visiting International Teacher Certificates.

(a) A teacher may be issued a visiting international teacher certificate valid for no more than three school years upon recommendation by a school district participating in an officially recognized foreign teacher exchange program. [The program shall be based upon an agreement made between the State Board for Educator Certification and/or the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and a ministry of education in a foreign country.]

(b) The visiting international teacher certificate will be issued to an individual who meets conditions and requirements presented in this subsection. The individual must:

(1) meet appropriate requirements prescribed in §230.11 of this title (relating to General Requirements);
(2) hold valid teaching credentials from the country of origin based, at a minimum, on the equivalent of a bachelor's degree issued by an institution of higher education in the United States accredited or otherwise approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;
(3) demonstrate English language proficiency;
(4) have criminal activity clearance from country of origin;
(5) demonstrate subject matter competence in subject area(s) taught, as defined by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in compliance with federal requirements;
(6) pay appropriate fee prescribed by §230.101 of this title (relating to Schedule of Fees for Certification Services); and
(7) submit fingerprints in accordance with §232.35(c) of this title (relating to Submission of Required Information) and the Texas Education Code, §22.0831.

(c) Participating school districts agree to provide the visiting international teachers with intensive supervision consisting of structured guidance and regular ongoing support through a mentoring program.

(d) The TEA staff shall establish reasonable procedures to implement this section.

(e) Issuance of a visiting international teacher certificate does not prohibit issuance of a one-year certificate following a successful review of credentials, as specified in Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from Other Countries).

Subchapter E. Educational Aide Certificate

§230.53. Procedures in General.

(a) School district administrators have the authority and responsibility to determine the number of educational aides and level of job performance desired for the operation of the school district. The school district administrator is responsible for preparing accurate job descriptions for each assignment, classifying each assignment, and filling these assignments with individuals certified according to this subchapter.

(b) An appropriate educational aide certificate shall be issued to a qualified individual who is recommended by the employing superintendent or his or her designee and who meets the requirements of this subchapter. The school district shall submit a completed application and recommendation for an educational aide certificate to Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff. The applicant shall pay the designated fee.

(c) The applicant for an educational aide certificate must be able to communicate, listen, read, write, and comprehend the English language sufficiently to use it easily and readily in daily communication.

(d) An individual with experience in other states must have that experience verified on a teacher service record when he or she is employed in a Texas school district.
An applicant for an educational aide certificate is subject to the provisions in §230.11(b)(1)-(5) of this title (relating to General Requirements).

An individual who holds a valid Texas classroom teaching certificate may serve as an educational aide without obtaining an educational aide certificate.

An individual seeking a higher level of educational aide certificate must submit a completed online application and payment and be recommended for issuance at the higher level by the employing school district.

§230.63. Validity Period of Educational Aide Certificates.

(a) Educational aide certificates issued prior to September 1, 2017, are valid for five years and are not eligible for renewal.

(b) Educational aide certificates issued after August 31, 2017, are valid for two years and are not eligible for renewal.

(c) Effective September 1, 2017, individuals seeking to transfer from one level of educational aide certificate to another level are not required to renew expired educational aide certificates.

§230.65. Requirements for Reissuance of Educational Aide Certificates.

(a) Effective September 1, 2017, educational aide certificates will expire at the end of their validity period and are not subject to renewal.

(b) To be eligible for reissuance of an educational aide certificate following the expiration of an educational aide certificate, a candidate shall submit a new online application and payment and be recommended by the employing school district.

Subchapter F. Permits


(a) In accordance with the provisions of this subchapter, emergency permits are issued under the authority of the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC).

(b) Effective with the 2017-2018 school year, an emergency permit will limit an individual to one year of service and no renewal will be allowed.

(c) The one-year limitation on permits referenced in subsection (b) of this section does not apply to individuals serving in the position of Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) instructor or teachers of students with visual impairments. As indicated in §230.77(g)(4)(B) of this title (relating to Specific Requirements for Initial Emergency Permits), emergency permits for JROTC instructors must be reissued every year. Emergency permits for visual impairments referenced in §230.77(f)(2)(B) of this title may be renewed a maximum of two years.

(d) [Repealed] Under this subchapter, a superintendent or his or her designee who cannot secure an appropriately certified and qualified individual to fill a vacant position may activate an emergency permit for an individual who does not have one of the appropriate credentials required for the assignment as specified in Chapter 231 of this title (relating to Requirements for [Assignment of] Public School Personnel Assignments). The superintendent or his or her designee must:

(1) document locally the efforts the school district or open-enrollment charter school has taken to employ an appropriately [fully] certified individual in the position for which an emergency permit is activated;

(2) apply for an emergency permit when a vacant position is filled with an uncertified or inappropriately certified individual who will serve as the teacher of record or will serve in the assignment for more than 30 consecutive instructional days. The application must be submitted to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) within 45 instructional days of the date of assignment;
(3) verify that the school district or open-enrollment charter school maintains a support system, has assigned a trained mentor, and will provide release time as needed to assist the individual serving on an emergency permit. (A school district shall not be required to provide a mentor for a degreed, certified teacher assigned on an emergency permit if the teacher has one or more creditable years experience within the school district, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title (relating to Commissioner's Rules on Creditable Years of Service)); and

(4) verify that the individual for whom the emergency permit is activated has been advised of the SBEC rules regarding permits and permit renewal requirements in this subchapter.

(e) A certified teacher must consent to the activation of an emergency permit and be advised of the conditions of the emergency permit. A teacher who refuses to consent to activation of an emergency permit may not be terminated or nonrenewed or otherwise retaliated against because of the teacher's refusal to consent to the activation of the emergency permit. However, a teacher's refusal to consent shall not impair a school district's right to implement a necessary reduction in force or other personnel actions in accordance with local school district or open-enrollment charter school policy.

(f) An emergency permit is authorized for the school district or open-enrollment charter school for a specific assignment and is not the property of the individual for whom the emergency permit was activated.

(g) If an emergency permit authorized by the SBEC is not used, the school district or open-enrollment charter school shall notify TEA [the Texas Education Agency (TEA)] staff by email.

(h) An emergency permit may be authorized on a hardship basis for an individual who does not meet all emergency permit requirements as listed in §§230.75, 230.77, and 230.81 of this title (relating to General Eligibility Requirements for Emergency Permits, Specific Requirements for Initial Emergency Permits, and Renewal Requirements and Procedures) only if approval has been granted and email notification received from the TEA staff. The school district must:

(1) document local conditions requiring the assignment of an individual who does not meet emergency permit requirements;

(2) verify that the deficiencies for the certificate sought do not exceed 36 semester credit hours; and

(3) verify:

(A) that the individual will be enrolled in the first available course listed on the certification deficiency plan; or

(B) registration for the next available administration of the appropriate content specialization portion of the certification examination for an individual who holds a valid Texas classroom teaching certificate and a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education and is placed in an assignment requiring a different classroom teaching certificate.

(i) The school district is not required to comply with the requirements of this subchapter if an uncertified individual is assigned for a certified teacher that will be absent for more than 30 consecutive instructional days due to documented health related reasons and has expressed the intention to return to the assignment. The school district must comply with the Texas Education Code, §21.057, pertaining to parental notification.

(j) Candidates who hold an intern certificate under the provisions of §230.36 of this title (relating to Intern Certificates) or a probationary certificate under the provisions of §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates) may [not] be employed on an emergency permit during the validity of the intern certificate or probationary certificate, if the emergency permit is being issued in a certificate area not available through the educator preparation program that provided recommendation for the intern certificate or probationary certificate.

§230.73. Validity of Emergency Permits.

(a) The validity date of an emergency permit activated and authorized under this subchapter is specified in §230.97 of this title (relating to Effective Dates of Certificates and Permit Issuance).
An emergency permit is valid for the remainder of the school year for which it is activated and authorized by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC). The emergency permit must be submitted to the Texas Education Agency staff within 45 instructional days from the date of assignment.

An emergency permit authorized by the SBEC is valid for service only in the requesting school district and only for the assignments indicated on the emergency permit application.

Effective with the 2017-2018 school year, the employment of an individual on an emergency permit, with the exception of the assignment as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor or a teacher of students with visual impairments, may not exceed three school years in the same assignment.

Prior to the 2017-2018 school year, the individual may serve in a specific assignment no more than two additional school years beyond the initial emergency permit. To continue beyond the initial emergency permit year, the individual must comply with the renewal provisions specified in §230.81 of this title (relating to Renewal Requirements and Procedures).

Effective with the 2017-2018 school year, renewal provisions specified in §230.81 of this title will no longer apply for emergency permits, with the exception of teachers of students with visual impairments.

Effective with the 2017-2018 school year, to continue employment in the assignment beyond the validity of the initial emergency permit, the individual must hold the appropriate certificate, in accordance with Chapter 231 of this title (relating to Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments). An individual may not serve as a classroom teacher of record in the Texas school district for more than three school years without obtaining initial, standard certification.

§230.75. General Eligibility Requirements for Emergency Permits.

An individual for whom an emergency permit is activated must meet the following criteria.

1. The individual must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education.
   (A) For a career and technical education assignment requiring certification based on both an associate's or more advanced degree and experience in an occupational area to be taught, such as health science technology education or health science, or a bachelor's degree or higher and experience in the occupational area to be taught such as health science technology education, marketing education, or marketing, the individual must have completed the degree requirement and have specified work experience.
   (B) For a trade and industrial education assignment, the individual must have specified work experience in lieu of a bachelor's degree.

2. The individual must be at least 18 years of age.

3. The individual must be able to communicate and understand the English language sufficiently to use it easily and readily in daily communication and teaching, as specified in §230.11 of this title (relating to General Requirements).

4. The individual must be of good moral character. The State Board for Educator Certification may refuse to authorize an emergency permit for an individual, applying the same standards that would be applied to the administrative denial of an applicant for certification under §249.12 of this title (relating to Administrative Denial; Appeal).

5. The individual must submit fingerprints in accordance with §232.35(c) of this title (relating to Submission of Required Information) and the Texas Education Code (TEC), §22.0831.

§230.77. Specific Requirements for Initial Emergency Permits.

(a) General provisions. An individual for whom an emergency permit is activated must:

1. have completed the appropriate semester credit hours or equivalent contact hours required for the emergency permit sought as specified in this section, or, for a degreed, certified teacher,
passed the appropriate content specialization portions of the appropriate certification examination required for the target certificate; and

(2) have satisfied the appropriate experience requirement specified in this section for the emergency permit sought.

(b) Assignments to elementary grades (Early Childhood-Grade 6) (general education). The individual must have completed 12 semester credit hours in a combination of subjects directly related to the elementary curriculum, 12 semester credit hours in elementary education, or any combination of these areas of study. Subjects related to the elementary curriculum include, but are not limited to, art, English language arts, health, mathematics, music, physical education, reading, science, social studies, technology applications, and theatre arts.

(c) Assignments to secondary grades (Grades 7-12) (general education).

(1) An emergency permit may be activated for an individual not certified at the secondary level provided the individual has completed:

   (A) 24 semester credit hours in the subject to be taught; or
   (B) 24 semester credit hours toward a composite teaching field appropriate for the assignment, including at least twelve [six] semester credit hours in the subject to be taught.

(2) A Temporary Classroom Assignment Permit (TCAP) may be activated for a teacher certified at the secondary level assigned to a subject area not covered by the certificate. The school district is not required to file the TCAP with the Texas Education Agency staff. The TCAP must be maintained in the school district personnel records.

   (A) A TCAP must be activated for each class period taught by an individual who is assigned to one or more class periods in an area not covered by the certificate held. The individual must have completed twelve [six] semester credit hours in the specific subject area(s) to be taught. In the case of an assignment in mathematics or science, an individual must have completed fifteen semester hours in the specific subject area(s) to be taught. A TCAP may be activated for no more than four class periods.
   (B) The TCAP is valid for one school year and is not renewable except in the event that the TCAP was issued for fewer than 90 calendar days before the last day of student instruction in the prior school year.
   (C) For assignments that exceed four class periods, or for individuals who have not completed the minimum semester credit hours in the subject area(s) to be taught, approval must be granted by the TEA; however, in no event may an individual with six or fewer semester credit hours in the specific subject area to be taught be approved.

(d) Assignments to all grade levels (Early Childhood-Grade 12) (general education).

(1) An individual must have completed 24 semester credit hours in the subject area to be taught.

(2) This section will apply to all general education subject areas that are available as Early Childhood-Grade 12 certificates.

(e) Assignments to career and technical education programs.

(1) Agriculture, food, and natural resources [Agricultural science and technology] assignments. An individual must:

   (A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education; and
   (B) have completed 24 semester credit hours in agriculture, food, and natural resources [agricultural science and technology] coursework.

(2) Health science [technology] assignments. An individual must:
(A) hold an associate's degree or more advanced [a bachelor's] degree from an accredited institution of higher education;

(B) be currently licensed, certified, or registered (requiring two years of college education) by a state-authorized or nationally recognized accrediting agency as a professional practitioner in one or more health occupations for which instruction is offered; and

(C) have an approved statement of qualifications verifying two years of full-time employment in an accredited health care facility or agency while holding the license specified in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area)).

(3) Family and consumer sciences assignments. An individual must:

(A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education; and

(B) have completed 24 semester credit hours in family and consumer sciences coursework.

(4) Marketing [education or marketing] assignments. An individual must:

(A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;

(B) have completed 24 semester credit hours in marketing coursework; and

(C) have an approved statement of qualifications verifying two years of full-time wage-earning experience in marketing occupations for which training is offered at the secondary level.

(5) Business and finance [education] assignments [(for any instructional arrangements)] . An individual must:

(A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education; and

(B) have completed 24 semester credit hours in business and finance coursework.

(6) Trade and industrial education assignments.

(A) Option I. An individual must:

(i) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education; and

(ii) have an approved statement of qualifications verifying two [three] years of full-time wage-earning experience earned within the past ten [eight] years in one or more approved occupations for which instruction is offered. Up to 18 months of the wage-earning experience can be met through a formal documented internship.

(B) Option II. An individual must:

(i) hold an associate's degree from an accredited institution of higher education; and

(ii) have an approved statement of qualifications verifying two [three] years of full-time wage-earning experience earned within the past ten [eight] years in one or more approved occupations for which instruction is offered.

(C) Option III. An individual must:

(i) hold a high school diploma, the equivalent of a high school diploma, or higher; and

(ii) have an approved statement of qualifications verifying five years of full-time wage-earning experience earned within the past eight years in one or more approved occupations for which instruction is offered.

(D) Additional requirements.
(i) An individual must hold a current licensure, certification, or registration by a state-authorized or nationally recognized accrediting agency as a professional practitioner in one or more approved occupations for which instruction is offered. Licensure, certification, or registration by a state-authorized or nationally recognized accrediting agency must be based on a recognized test or measurement or on passing the appropriate National Occupational Competency Testing (NOCTI) assessment.

(ii) A cosmetology teacher must:
   (I) have three years of full-time wage-earning experience as a licensed cosmetologist; and
   (II) currently be licensed as a cosmetology instructor by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.

(iii) Wage-earning experience must be approved by the certification officer of the approved Texas educator preparation program (EPP).

(f) Assignments for special populations.
(1) English language learners (ELLs).
   (A) Bilingual education.
      (i) An individual who holds a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education and is certified at the appropriate level must:
          (I) have completed six [three] semester credit hours in the language of the approved bilingual education program; or [and]
          (II) have completed six semester credit hours in the language of the target population and demonstrate proficiency in comprehension and expression in the language of the target population by having a passing score on an appropriate State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC)-approved examination.
      (ii) An individual who holds a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education but is not certified must:
          (I) meet the requirements for the grade level of assignment, as described in subsections (b)-(d) of this section;
          (II) be currently enrolled in an approved Texas EPP for bilingual education; and
          (III) have satisfied one of the following requirements:
                  (-a-) completed 12 semester credit hours in the language of the target population, bilingual education, or a combination of the two subject areas; or
                  (-b-) demonstrated proficiency in comprehension and expression in oral or sign language communication skills in the language of the target population by having a passing score on an appropriate SBEC-approved examination.
   (B) English as a second language (ESL). An individual must:
      (i) hold [be currently certified for the grade level to be taught and must have] a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education; [and]
      (ii) be currently certified for the grade level to be taught; and
(iii) have satisfied one of the following requirements:

(I) have completed six semester credit hours in an approved ESL program; or

(II) have one creditable year of classroom teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title (relating to Commissioner’s Rules on Creditable Years of Service).

(2) Students with special learning needs.

(A) Auditory impairments. An individual must:

(i) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;

(ii) have completed six semester credit hours directly related to teaching students with auditory impairments [the hearing impaired];

(iii) have demonstrated competence in the specific communication method used in the classroom setting with students with auditory impairments; and

(iv) have verified that the employing school district, cooperative, or education service center (ESC) has one or more fully certified teachers for students with auditory impairments available as a mentor and to provide support.

(B) Visual impairments. An individual must:

(i) hold a valid Texas classroom teaching certificate based on a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;

(ii) have satisfied the following requirements:

(I) have completed six semester credit hours directly related to teaching students with visual impairments; and

(II) have one creditable year of classroom teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title;

(iii) have demonstrated competency in literary Braille and basic Nemeth Code by passing the approved Braille examination, holding certification as a literary Braille transcriber by the Library of Congress, or completing one university course in Braille; and

(iv) have verified that the employing school district, cooperative, or ESC has one or more fully certified teachers of students with visual impairments available as a mentor and to provide support.

(C) Home-based instruction or instruction in a hospital class. An individual must:

(i) be currently certified based on a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education; and

(ii) have one creditable year of teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title.

(D) Special education (Early Childhood-Grade 12).

(i) An individual who holds a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education and is certified at the appropriate grade level must:

(I) have completed six semester credit hours directly related to teaching children with special learning needs; or
(II) have one creditable year of classroom teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title.

(ii) An individual who holds a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education, but is not certified must:

(I) for elementary assignments (Early Childhood-Grade 6), meet requirements for the level of assignment as stated in subsection (b) of this section and have completed 18 semester credit hours directly related to teaching children with special learning needs; or

(II) for secondary assignments (Grades 7-12), have completed 24 semester credit hours directly related to teaching children with special learning needs.

(g) Assignments for other instructional and support personnel.

(1) School counselor (Early Childhood-Grade 12). An individual must:

(A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;

(B) have completed 24 semester credit hours of graduate-level credit, including 12 semester credit hours in guidance and counseling; and

(C) have two creditable years of classroom teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title.

(2) Educational diagnostician (Early Childhood-Grade 12). An individual must:

(A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;

(B) have completed 30 semester credit hours of graduate-level credit in the field of education or a related field, including six semester credit hours in tests and measurements, at least three semester credit hours of which emphasized individualized testing;

(C) have completed six semester credit hours directly related to teaching individuals with special learning needs; and

(D) have two creditable years of classroom teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title.

(3) School librarian (Early Childhood-Grade 12). An individual must:

(A) hold a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;

(B) have completed 12 semester credit hours directly related to the basic competencies required of school librarians; and

(C) have two creditable years of classroom teaching experience, as defined in Chapter 153, Subchapter CC, of this title.

(4) Junior Reserve Officer [Officers'] Training Corps (JROTC) [ROTC] instructor.

(A) An individual must verify that he or she has satisfied the requirements and been approved to serve by the appropriate military branch [ROTC].

(B) An JROTC [An-ROTC] instructor permit may not be renewed, but must be reissued every year.


(a) For all assignments (except career and technical education assignments based on skill and experience). The employing superintendent or his or her designee or authorized representative must verify the individual's eligibility for the emergency permit as described in §230.75 of this title (relating to General Eligibility Requirements for Emergency Permits) and §230.77 of this title (relating to Specific Requirements for
Initial Emergency Permits) and submit online to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff the following information within 45 instructional days of assignment:

(1) a completed online emergency permit application;

(2) one of the following:
   (A) a certification [deficiency] plan from an approved Texas educator preparation program (EPP) verifying that the individual meets the grade point average requirement for admission to the EPP and a listing of the preparation, student teaching/internship, and/or assessment activities required to obtain certification in the assignment for which the emergency permit application has been submitted; or
   (B) verification of registration for the next available and practicable administration of the appropriate content area certification examination(s) [examination] for an individual who:
      (i) holds a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education;
      (ii) is already certified in another classroom teaching content area; and
      (iii) is placed in an assignment requiring a different classroom teaching certificate; and

(3) the appropriate fee (payable by the school district).

(b) For career and technical education assignments based on skill and experience. The employing superintendent or his or her designee or authorized representative must verify the individual's eligibility for the emergency permit as described in §230.75 and §230.77 of this title and submit online to the TEA staff the following information within 45 instructional days of assignment:

(1) a completed online emergency permit application;

(2) a copy of the individual's statement of qualifications, approved by the certification officer of a Texas EPP [an institution of higher education] approved to prepare career and technical education teachers, verifying appropriate work experience in the occupation or trade area to be taught as specified in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area));

(3) acceptable license, registration, or certification by a state-authorized or nationally recognized agency in an occupational area appropriate for the assignment;

(4) a certification [deficiency] plan from an approved Texas EPP for the career and technical education certificate appropriate for the assignment; and

(5) the appropriate fee (payable by the school district).

§230.81. Renewal Requirements and Procedures.

General provisions.

(1) The employing superintendent or his or her designee or authorized representative of a school district may renew an emergency permit for the same assignment in the same school district for which the initial emergency permit was activated.

(2) No individual may continue in the same assignment for more than one [three] school year [years] of service on an emergency permit, except as provided in paragraph (4) of this section.

(3) The total of semester credit hours or the equivalent contact hours required to obtain certification appropriate for the assignment shall determine the number of emergency permit renewals for which the individual may be eligible. The following schedule shall determine eligibility for emergency permit renewal.

§230.81. Renewal Requirements and Procedures.
(A) For six semester credit hours or less plus appropriate examination requirements, an individual is not eligible for renewal.

(B) For seven [7-12] semester credit hours or more plus appropriate examination requirements, an individual is eligible for one renewal.

(C) For more than 12 semester credit hours plus appropriate examination requirements, an individual is eligible for two renewals.

(4) Effective with the 1998-1999 school year, emergency permits used fewer than 90 calendar days may be renewed for one additional year of service, if needed.

(5) The superintendent or his or her designee or authorized representative may renew an emergency permit provided the following requirements and procedures are met.

(A) The emergency permit must be renewed for the same assignment in the same school district.

(B) Official transcripts verifying completion of a minimum of six semester credit hours or documentation of completion of equivalent contact hours toward the appropriate target certificate must be placed in the individual's personnel file.

(C) If the individual has not completed permit renewal requirements as indicated in paragraph (3) of this section, the superintendent or his or her designee must obtain hardship approval from the Texas Education Agency prior to continuation of the assignment.

(D) The appropriate renewal of the emergency permit application must be completed online prior to the beginning date of duties for the current school year.

(E) The school district shall pay the appropriate fee.

§230.83. Nonrenewable Permits.

(a) The superintendent or his or her designee of a school district may activate a nonrenewable permit for an individual who has not completed the appropriate examination requirements specified in §230.21 of this title (relating to Educator Assessment).

(b) A nonrenewable permit may be activated for an individual in one or more of the following categories:

(1) an individual who has completed all course and degree requirements of a Texas educator preparation program specified in this chapter except for successful completion of all appropriate examination requirements. Nonrenewable permits activated for individuals in this category expire 12 months from the date of activation; or

(2) an individual who holds a Texas teacher certificate with an effective date before February 1, 1986, but has not revalidated the certificate for employment purposes by passing an examination specified in this chapter. The individual must not have been employed in a Texas school district since the start of the 1985-1986 school year. A nonrenewable permit activated for an individual in this category expires six months from the date of activation or at the end of the school year, whichever is less; or

(3) an individual who has been issued a one-year certificate under Subchapter H of this chapter (relating to Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States or Territories of the United States), who passed the appropriate content specialization portions of the certification examinations, and who attempted, but did not pass, the pedagogy and professional responsibilities portion of the examination while the one-year certificate was valid. A nonrenewable permit activated for an individual in this category expires 12 months from the date the individual first attempted the pedagogy and professional responsibilities portion of the certification examinations.

(c) A nonrenewable permit may not be activated for an individual in the same assignment area for which another permit had previously been authorized.
The employing superintendent or his or her designee or authorized representative must verify that an individual is eligible for the permit under this section and submit the following information within 45 calendar days of assignment:

(1) an application for a nonrenewable permit completed before the effective date of the assignment; and

(2) the appropriate fee (payable by the school district).

Subchapter G. Certificate Issuance Procedures

§230.91. Procedures in General.

(a) The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC), in compliance with SBEC rules, shall issue appropriate certificates to qualified individuals who meet all requirements.

(1) The certificate shall identify the name of the holder, the class, grade levels, subject areas, and validity periods of all certificates issued, and reflect, if applicable, disciplinary history taken by the certificate, and bear the signature of the SBEC chair.

(2) A certificate that is issued shall be maintained in a printable format on the Texas Education Agency (TEA) website on behalf of the SBEC.

(b) Permanent records of all certificates, permits, and supporting documentation shall be maintained by the TEA staff.

(c) An applicant for or holder of an educator's certificate shall be responsible for maintaining his or her educator profile with current mailing and email addresses. The applicant for or holder of an educator's certificate must update his or her educator profile within 45 calendar days of the effective date of such change, unless another rule under this title requires earlier notification.

(d) The representation of an individual's certificate status as maintained on the TEA website is considered to be the official record of educator certification. This electronic representation of the certificate satisfies Texas Education Code, §21.053(a), which requires individuals to present their certificate prior to employment by a school district.

§230.93. Candidates of Approved Educator Preparation Programs.

An appropriate certificate may be issued to a candidate who completes all requirements of a State Board for Educator Certification-approved educator preparation program (EPP). The candidate must complete the appropriate application and pay the designated fee. The certification officer representing the approved EPP shall submit to the Texas Education Agency staff a recommendation for the issuance of the appropriate certificate, not earlier than the date on which all requirements were completed, and by the recommendation deadlines for issuance of the certificate.

§230.97. Effective Dates of Certificates and Permit Issuance.

(a) Issuance date of a certificate.

(1) The date of issuance shall not precede the date all certification requirements are completed.

(2) The issuance date of a certificate recommended by an approved educator preparation program (EPP) shall be the date the recommending EPP verifies that the applicant has satisfied all certification requirements.

(3) A certificate shall not become effective more than 60 calendar days before the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff receives the application and may not precede the date all certification, degree, and examination requirements are completed.

(4) A certificate shall be valid for the entire month in which it is issued.

(b) Effective date of a permit.
A permit shall become effective on the date of the assignment, provided the TEA staff receives the application within 60 calendar days of the date of the assignment.

If the permit application is completed and signed by the applicant and superintendent or his or her designee on the date teaching duties begin, the application may be kept in the school district's files until all materials for submission are acquired. A permit held by a school district shall not become effective more than 60 calendar days before the TEA staff receives the application.

The school district shall be notified regarding eligibility for the permit. Coverage will not be provided to the school district for the employment of an individual who is ineligible for the permit requested.

Authority to alter dating procedures. A certificate or permit may become effective more than 60 calendar days before the TEA staff receives an application if the appropriate official or authority documents his or her responsibility for the delay. A fee equal to the fee for the original certificate or permit may be assessed for altering the effective date of a certificate or permit, provided sufficient justification for the correction is provided.


(a) An applicant for a certificate or a school district requesting a permit shall pay the applicable fee from the following list.

1. Educational [Standard educational] aide certificate:
   (A) prior to September 1, 2017 --$30; and
   (B) after August 31, 2017--$15.

2. Standard certificate--$75.

3. Probationary or intern certificate:
   (A) prior to September 1, 2017 --$50; and
   (B) after August 31, 2017--$75.

4. Addition of certification based on completion of appropriate examination--$75.

5. Review of a credential issued by a jurisdiction other than Texas (nonrefundable):
   (A) prior to September 1, 2016--$175; and
   (B) after August 31, 2016--$160.

6. One-year certificate [Temporary credential] based on a credential issued by a jurisdiction other than Texas--$50.

7. Emergency permit (nonrefundable)--$55.

8. National criminal history check (nonrefundable)--The fee, posted on the Texas Education Agency website, shall include a $10 criminal history review [processing] fee in addition [vary according] to the current cost of fingerprint scanning, processing, and obtaining national criminal history record information from the Texas Department of Public Safety, its contractors, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The same fee will be paid by current certified educators who are subject to a national criminal history check pursuant to the Texas Education Code, §§22.082, 22.0831, and 22.0836.

9. Review of the superintendent application for the substitution of managerial experience for the principal certificate requirement (nonrefundable)--$160.


[10] Review of credentials requiring analysis and research of college or university transcript and degrees for issuance of a temporary certificate (nonrefundable):
(A) prior to September 1, 2016--$175; and
(B) after August 31, 2016--$160.

(10) On-time renewal of [standard] educational aide certificate:
(A) prior to September 1, 2017 --$10; and
(B) after August 31, 2017--no charge.

(11) Additional fee for late renewal of [standard] educational aide certificate:
(A) prior to September 1, 2017 --$5; and
(B) after August 31, 2017--no charge.

(12) Reactivation of an inactive [standard] educational aide certificate--$15.

(13) Reinstatement following restitution of child support or student loan repayment for
[standard] educational aide certificate--$20.

(14) On-time renewal of a standard certificate (to include any educational aide certificate if
held) --$20.

(15) Additional fee for late renewal of a standard certificate--$10.

(16) Reactivation of an inactive standard certificate--$40; except for an inactivation pursuant
to §232.9 of this title (relating to Inactive Status and Late Renewal).

(17) Reinstatement following restitution of child support or student loan repayment--$50.

(18) Visiting international teacher certificate-- $75 [$50].

(19) Request for preliminary criminal history evaluation (nonrefundable)--$50.

(b) The fee for correcting a certificate or permit when the error is not made by the Texas Education Agency
shall be equal to the fee for the original certificate or permit.

§230.104. Correcting a Certificate or Permit Issued in Error.

If a certificate or permit is issued with an incorrect grade level, subject area, or effective date, the
recommending entity may request a correction of the certificate or permit by submitting a written request to
Texas Education Agency staff and a fee equivalent to the fee for the original certificate or permit. The
entity must provide sufficient justification for the correction.

§230.105. Issuance of Additional Certificates Based on Examination.

A teacher who holds a valid provisional, professional, or standard classroom teaching certificate or a valid
temporary classroom teaching certificate issued under the provisions of Subchapter H of this chapter
(relating to Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States
or Territories of the United States), or Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from
Other Countries), and a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution of higher education may
qualify for an additional teaching field or certification to teach at another level by passing the appropriate
certification examination(s) for that subject. The teacher must submit the application to add certification
based on an examination during the time the certificate is allowed to be issued by the State Board for
Educator Certification. The application for the additional certification must be submitted during the validity
period of the appropriate Texas classroom teaching certificate. If a teacher holds multiple teaching
certificates, all teaching certificates must be active before adding certification by examination. The rule
shall not be used to qualify a classroom teacher for:

(1) initial certification;

(2) career and technical education certification based on skill and experience, with the exception of
marketing education or marketing certificates;
the Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12 certificate;

(3) another class of certificate, as listed in Subchapter D of this chapter (relating to Types and Classes of Certificates Issued); or

(4) certification for which no certification examination has been developed.


An individual who holds a valid provisional, professional, or standard certificate issued under the provisions of this chapter may request removal of a certificate area(s) he or she no longer wishes to hold.

(1) The request to relinquish a certificate must be:

(A) submitted by the certificate holder in writing by mail, personal delivery, facsimile, email, or an electronic notification;

(B) identify the specific certificate area(s) to be removed from the official record of certification; and

(C) include a statement acknowledging his or her understanding that once the certificate area(s) have been removed, they cannot be reinstated.

(2) Certificate holders currently under investigation for a "Priority 1" offense as defined in Chapter 249 of this title (relating to Disciplinary Proceedings, Sanctions, and Contested Cases) are not eligible to relinquish a Texas certificate(s) under provisions of this subchapter and may not unilaterally surrender a certificate without written consent of a Texas Education Agency staff member authorized by the associate commissioner to execute settlements as designated by the State Board for Educator Certification.

Subchapter H. Texas Educator Certificates Based on Certification and College Credentials from Other States or Territories of the United States


(a) A Texas educator certificate may be issued to an individual who holds a college degree and an acceptable certificate or credential issued by the authorized licensing agency in another state or territory of the United States and who meets appropriate requirements specified in §230.11 of this title (relating to General Requirements) and elsewhere in this subchapter.

(b) The degree held by an applicant from another state or territory of the United States must be equivalent to at least a bachelor's degree or higher issued by an accredited institution of higher education.

(c) The certificate or other credential issued by the authorized licensing agency in another state or territory of the United States may not be a temporary permit, a credential issued by a city or school district, a specific examination or renewal requirement, or a certificate for which academic or other program deficiencies are indicated. Specific examination or renewal requirements shall not be considered academic deficiencies.

(d) A statement, approval letter, or certification entitlement card must be issued by the authorized licensing agency in another state or territory of the United States specifying eligibility for full certification upon employment or completion of specified examination requirements shall have the same standing as a certificate.

(e) The certificate and areas of certification issued by the authorized licensing agency in another state or territory of the United States must be equivalent to a certificate or grade level that is within the early childhood-Grade 12 level and approved by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC). Based on the certificates submitted with the application for review of credentials, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff shall identify the certification areas for which the applicant qualifies in Texas. The certificate(s) for which the applicant qualifies may be issued by the TEA staff under the authority of the SBEC.
If a Texas examination or certification is scheduled to be eliminated, an individual requesting certification and examination comparability must ensure that the application and all review documentation, including examination (test) scores, are received by TEA staff 60 calendar days before the application submission deadline for the examination and/or certification sought.

§230.113. Requirements for Texas Certificates Based on Certification from Other States or Territories of the United States.

(a) An applicant for a standard Texas certificate based on a certificate issued in accordance with §230.111 of this title (relating to General Provisions) must pass the appropriate examination requirements prescribed in the Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.048(a), and §230.21 of this title (relating to Educator Assessment) or achieve an acceptable level of performance on an examination(s) that have been determined to be similar to and at least as rigorous as that prescribed in the TEC, §21.048(a), and §230.21 of this title that was administered to the applicant under the authority of another state or territory of the United States. The applicant shall verify in a manner determined by the Texas Education Agency staff the level of performance on acceptable examinations administered under the authority of another state or territory of the United States.

(b) If all certification requirements are met except the appropriate examination requirements, the applicant may request issuance of a one-year certificate in one or more certification areas authorized on the out-of-state certificate. An applicant who holds only a student services, principal, or superintendent certificate issued in accordance with Chapter 239 of this title (relating to Student Services Certificates), with the exception of Subchapter E (relating to Master Teacher Certificate); Chapter 241 of this title (relating to Principal Certificate); or Chapter 242 of this title (relating to Superintendent Certificate) may be issued the equivalent Texas certificate. The applicant must verify two creditable years of service in an Early Childhood-Grade 12 public or accredited private school in the specific student services or administrative area sought.

(c) After satisfying all requirements, including all appropriate examination requirements, the applicant is eligible to receive the appropriate standard certificate issued under Subchapter D of this chapter (relating to Types and Classes of Certificates Issued).

(d) An applicant issued a one-year certificate under this section who does not complete the appropriate examination requirements to establish eligibility for a standard certificate during the validity of the one-year certificate, is not eligible for any type of certificate or permit authorizing employment for the same certificate until he or she has satisfied the appropriate examination requirements. If examination requirements are not met during the validity period of the one-year certificate due to circumstances beyond the control of the educator, the employing school district may request an extension not to exceed one calendar year in length.

(e) An employing superintendent may apply for a nonrenewable permit for a teacher who does not pass the pedagogy and professional responsibilities portion of the certification examinations but does pass the appropriate content specialization portions of the examination during the validity of the one-year certificate. The nonrenewable permit shall be valid for no more than 12 months from the date the individual first attempts the pedagogy and professional responsibilities examination.

(f) An applicant shall not be required to complete the content specialization portion of the certification examination in a certification area for which he or she does not seek standard certification unless the examination is required to establish a base classroom teaching certificate. A supplemental certificate, as described in Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates), may not be issued as a standard certificate unless the educator has established a classroom teaching certificate.

(g) An applicant issued a one-year certificate under this section who, during or subsequent to the validity of the certificate, establishes eligibility for a standard certificate may apply for:

1. a new one-year certificate in another certification area based on an acceptable certificate from another state or territory of the United States; or
(2) a second one-year certificate in an area previously authorized on a one-year certificate provided
the applicant was not assigned to the area and has not attempted the appropriate examination
requirements for that area.