Texas Education Code, §21.003, Certification Required (excerpt):
(a) A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B.

Texas Education Code, §21.0031, Failure to Obtain Certification; Contract Void (excerpt):
(f) For purposes of this section, a certificate or permit is not considered to have expired if:
   (1) the employee has completed the requirements for renewal of the certificate or permit;
   (2) the employee submitted the request for renewal prior to the expiration date; and
   (3) the date the certificate or permit would have expired is before the date the State Board for Educator Certification takes action to approve the renewal of the certificate or permit.

Texas Education Code, §21.031, Purpose:
(a) The State Board for Educator Certification is established to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board shall regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.
(b) In proposing rules under this subchapter, the board shall ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

Texas Education Code, §21.041, Rules; Fees (excerpts):
(b) The board shall propose rules that:
   (1) provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of this subchapter in a manner consistent with this subchapter;
   (2) specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates;
   (3) specify the period for which each class of educator certificate is valid;
   (4) specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate;
   (9) provide for continuing education requirements; and

Texas Education Code, §21.054, Continuing Education:
(a) The board shall propose rules establishing a process for identifying continuing education courses and programs that fulfill educators' continuing education requirements.
(b) Continuing education requirements for an educator who teaches students with dyslexia must include training regarding new research and practices in educating students with dyslexia.
(c) The training required under Subsection (b) may be offered in an online course.
(d) Continuing education requirements for a classroom teacher must provide that not more than 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:

1. collecting and analyzing information that will improve effectiveness in the classroom;
2. recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
3. integrating technology into classroom instruction; and
4. educating diverse student populations, including:
   (A) students with disabilities, including mental health disorders;
   (B) students who are educationally disadvantaged;
   (C) students of limited English proficiency; and
   (D) students at risk of dropping out of school.

(e) Continuing education requirements for a principal must provide that not more than 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:

1. effective and efficient management, including:
   (A) collecting and analyzing information;
   (B) making decisions and managing time; and
   (C) supervising student discipline and managing behavior;
2. recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
3. integrating technology into campus curriculum and instruction; and
4. educating diverse student populations, including:
   (A) students with disabilities, including mental health disorders;
   (B) students who are educationally disadvantaged;
   (C) students of limited English proficiency; and
   (D) students at risk of dropping out of school.

(f) Continuing education requirements for a counselor must provide that not more than 25 percent of training required every five years include instruction regarding:

1. assisting students in developing high school graduation plans;
2. implementing dropout prevention strategies; and
3. informing students concerning:
   (A) college admissions, including college financial aid resources and application procedures; and
   (B) career opportunities.

(g) The board shall adopt rules that allow an educator to fulfill up to 12 hours of continuing education by participating in a mental health first aid training program offered by a local mental health authority under Section 1001.203, Health and Safety Code. The number of hours of continuing education an educator may fulfill under this subsection may not exceed the number of hours the educator actually spends participating in a mental health first aid training program.