Item 6:
Adoption of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 234, Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans

DISCUSSION AND ACTION

SUMMARY: This item provides the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) an opportunity to adopt the proposed revisions to 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 234, Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans. The proposed revisions would implement Senate Bills (SBs) 422 and 544 and House Bill (HB) 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023. The proposed revisions would add military service members as being eligible to receive several of the provisions in place for military spouses; would add provisions to issue a three-year temporary certificate to eligible military veterans, peace officers, fire protection personnel, and emergency medical services personnel; and would also add provisions for the issuance of a one-year temporary certificate to certain instructors for the Community College of the Air Force. No changes are recommended since published as proposed, but additional changes may be recommended at the time of the meeting based on public comment.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The statutory authority for 19 TAC Chapter 234 is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§21.041(b)(2) and (4); 21.044(a); 21.0444, as added by HB 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023; 21.052(b-1), (c), (d-1), (f), and (i); 21.0525, as added by SB 544, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023; 21.054; and 21.458(a-2), as added by HB 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023; and Texas Occupations Code (TOC), §§55.001; 55.002; 55.003; 55.004(a)-(c); 55.004(d), as amended by SB 422, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023; 55.0041, as amended by SB 422, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023; 55.005(a), as amended by SB 422, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023; 55.005(b); 55.006; 55.007; 55.008; 55.009; and 55.010.

TEC, §21.041(b)(2), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates.

TEC, §21.041(b)(4), requires the SBEC to propose rules that specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate.

TEC, §21.044(a), requires the SBEC to propose rules establishing training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program.

TEC, §21.0444, as added by HB 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, creates a temporary certification to teach career and technology education for certain military service members and first responders and requires the SBEC to propose rules for certificate issuance.

TEC, §21.052(b-1), requires the SBEC to propose rules to establish procedures to establish residency and expedite processing of certification applications submitted by a military veteran or military spouse.

TEC, §21.052(c), states the SBEC can specify the term of a temporary certificate issued under this subsection.

TEC, §21.052(d-1), requires the SBEC to issue a three-year temporary certificate to eligible military spouses of active-duty service members.

TEC, §21.052(f), requires the SBEC to maintain an Internet website that outlines the procedures for military community members to obtain certification in Texas.

TEC, §21.052(i), defines active-duty service, lists the branches of the United States armed forces, and confirms the members of the military community eligible for processes established to certify educators from outside the state.

TEC, §21.0525, as added by SB 544, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, creates a temporary teaching certificate for certain persons with experience as instructors for the Community College of the Air Force and requires the SBEC to propose rules for certificate issuance.

TEC, §21.054, requires the SBEC to propose rules establishing a process for identifying continuing education courses and programs that fulfill educators' continuing education requirements.

TEC, §21.458(a-2), as added by HB 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, specifies that a school district shall assign a mentor teacher to a classroom teacher who has been issued a temporary certificate to teach career and technology education under TEC, §21.0444 for at least two years.

TOC, §55.001, defines key terms and identifies the individuals relevant to the processing and support of members of the military community.

TOC, §55.002, provides clarification and guidelines for implementing fee exemptions for members of the military community.

TOC, §55.003, states military service members are eligible to receive a two-year extension of time to complete requirements for license renewal.

TOC, §55.004(a)-(c), requires state agencies to adopt rules for issuance of licensure to members of the military community and provides alternatives to become eligible for licensure.

TOC, §55.004(d), as amended by SB 422, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, requires state agencies to adopt rules to allow military service members to use the same options as military spouses to meet the residency and other state-specific requirements for licensure.

TOC, §55.0041, as amended by SB 422, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, updates the section title to add military service members and include them in all related provisions addressed by this section.

TOC, §55.005(a), as amended by SB 422, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, specifies that a state agency that issues a license must do so no later than 30 days following the date that a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse applies for licensure.

TOC, §55.005(b), requires that a license issued under §55.005 confers the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as a license not issued under §55.005.

TOC, §55.006, requires state agencies to determine renewal requirements for expedited licenses issued to members of the military community.

TOC, §55.007, provides state agencies authority to credit verified military service, training, or education toward licensing requirements.

TOC, §55.008, authorizes state agencies to credit verified relevant military service, training, or education relevant to the occupation toward the apprenticeship requirements for licensure.

TOC, §55.009, confirms state agencies that issue licensure shall waive license application and examination fees paid to the state for applicable members of the military community.

TOC, §55.010, requires state agencies to prominently post notification of licensure provisions for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses on the home page of the agency's website.

The full text of statutory citations can be found in the statutory authority section of this agenda.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The effective date of the proposal would be March 7, 2024 (20 days after filing as adopted with the *Texas Register*). The proposed effective date is based on the SBEC and SBOE meeting schedules.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION: At the September 29, 2023 SBEC meeting, the SBEC approved the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 234, Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans, for publication in the *Texas Register* as proposed rules.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: The SBEC rules in 19 TAC Chapter 234 consolidate all military-related provisions into one chapter for all members of the military community (i.e., military service members, military spouses, and military veterans).

The proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 234 would implement SBs 422 and 544 and HB 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023. The following is a description of proposed revisions included in the attachment.

§234.1. Purpose.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.1 would create a new subsection (b) that adds peace officers, fire protection personnel, emergency medical services personnel, and qualified

instructors for the Community College of the Air Force to these provisions usually dedicated to members of the military community (i.e., military service members, military spouses, and military veterans). Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff are proposing this change to implement legislation passed during the 88th Texas Legislature Regular Session, 2023, in a more streamlined manner by placing all the statutory provisions into one SBEC rule chapter. Proposed new subsection (c) would be re-lettered accordingly.

§234.3. Definitions.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.3 would expand the section by adding the definitions of the following additional eight terms: *permanent change of station order*, *review of credentials*, *peace officer*, *fire protection personnel*, *emergency medical services personnel*, *Texas Education Agency staff*, *license*, and *state agency*. These definitions are being added to align with provisions in legislation and to offer further clarity in the review and processing of requests from members of the military community and additional groups identified in the most recent legislation passed (e.g., peace officer, fire protection personnel, emergency medical services personnel).

§234.5. Certification of Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.5(a) would strike the language "as soon as practicable" to replace it with "within 30 days of receipt of a complete application" to align with specifications in SB 422 that emphasize the importance of timely review and processing of certification applications submitted by members of the military community.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.5(b) would add military service members and military veterans to the one-year certificate issuance provisions referenced in this section that are already in place for military spouses following completion of a successful review of out of state credentials.

Proposed new 19 TAC §234.5(f) would implement provisions from SB 422 to allow a military service member to be issued a three-year temporary certificate upon successful completion of a credentials review or to declare his or her intent to teach in Texas up to three years maximum on a license issued by another state department of education following TEA's review of his or her credentials and written confirmation of approval. These proposed changes mirror provisions reflected in 19 TAC §234.5(d) and §234.5(e) and established for military spouses in previous legislative sessions.

Proposed re-lettered 19 TAC §234.5(g) would add military spouses to the provisions already in rule, and the subsequent subsections would be re-lettered, with no additional changes to the rule text.

Proposed new 19 TAC §234.5(m) would be added to reference applicability of the permanent change of station order as an acceptable document that can be submitted by members of the military community to establish residency requirements as applicable for certificate issuance and to serve as an acceptable form of identification to approve the military-related fee exemptions and other established provisions for members of the military community.

§234.6. Review of Credentials and Issuance of Licensure to Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.6(b)(1) would add clarification that a military service member is eligible for issuance of the Texas standard certificate following approval of an exemption from required examinations or after the required state certification examinations have been passed. The proposed amendment would also confirm that completion of a criminal background check is also required prior to certificate issuance.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.6(b)(2)(C) would add clarification that military spouses are eligible for issuance of the Texas standard certificate following approval of an exemption from required examinations or after the required state certification examinations have been passed.

The proposed amendment to 19 TAC §234.6(b)(3) would add clarification that military veterans are eligible for issuance of the Texas standard certificate following approval of an exemption from required examinations or after the required state certification examinations have been passed. The proposed amendment also confirms that completion of a criminal background check is also required prior to certificate issuance.

Proposed new 19 TAC §234.6(c) would implement a provision in SB 422 to clarify that a change in the marital status of a military spouse would not impact his or her right to utilize provisions specified in 19 TAC §234.6(b)(2)(A) and (B).

19 TAC §234.9. Certification of Military Veterans, Peace Officers, Fire Protection Personnel, and Emergency Medical Services Personnel.

Proposed new 19 TAC §234.9(a)-(c) would implement provisions of HB 621, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, to identify military veterans, peace officers, fire protection personnel, and emergency medical services personnel as the population of individuals eligible to receive the three-year temporary certificate for career and technology education and would establish the requirements for certificate issuance.

Proposed new 19 TAC §234.9(d) would provide guidance on the process to obtain a Texas standard certificate following expiration of the three-year temporary certificate.

§234.11. Certification of Full-Time Instructors for the Community College of the Air Force.

Proposed new 19 TAC §234.11(a) and (b) would implement provisions of SB 544, 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, to identify full-time instructors for the Community College of the Air Force as the population of individuals eligible to receive the one-year temporary certificate and would establish the requirements for certificate issuance. Proposed new §234.11(c) would provide guidance on the process to obtain a Texas standard certificate following expiration of the one-year temporary certificate.

Technical edits were made where applicable in the proposal to align the singularity of the terms military service member, military spouse, and military veteran.

FISCAL IMPACT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The TEA staff has determined that there is no additional fiscal impact on state and local governments and that there are no additional costs to entities required to comply with the proposal.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The proposal has no effect on local economy; therefore, no local employment impact statement is required under Texas Government Code (TGC), §2001.022.

SMALL BUSINESS, MICROBUSINESS, AND RURAL COMMUNITY IMPACT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The proposal has no direct adverse economic impact for small businesses, microbusinesses, or rural communities; therefore, no regulatory flexibility analysis, specified in TGC, §2006.002, is required.

COST INCREASE TO REGULATED PERSONS: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The proposal does not impose a cost on regulated persons, another state agency, a special district, or a local government and, therefore, is not subject to TGC, §2001.0045.

TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The proposal does not impose a burden on private real property and, therefore, does not constitute a taking under TGC, §2007.043.

GOVERNMENT GROWTH IMPACT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The TEA staff prepared a Government Growth Impact Statement assessment for this proposed rulemaking. During the first five years the proposed rulemaking would be in effect, it would increase the number of individuals subject to the rule's applicability because it would add military service members to some of the provisions already in place for military spouses, would add military veterans, peace officers, fire protection personnel, and emergency medical services personnel to the list of individuals eligible to receive a new, temporary three-year certificate created by the 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, to teach career and technology courses and would add full-time instructors for the Community College of the Air Force to the list of individuals eligible to receive a new temporary, one-year certificate, also created by the legislation. The proposed rulemaking would also create a new regulation by adding sections to these rules to comply with legislation and effectively implement the bills, and it would expand an existing regulation by adding to the population of individuals eligible to obtain certification and benefit from provisions specified in legislation.

The proposed rulemaking would not create or eliminate a government program; would not require the creation of new employee positions or elimination of existing employee positions; would not require an increase or decrease in future legislative appropriations to the agency; would not require an increase or decrease in fees paid to the agency; would not limit or repeal an existing regulation; would not decrease the number of individuals subject to its applicability; and would not positively or adversely affect the state's economy.

PUBLIC BENEFIT AND COST TO PERSONS: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The public benefit anticipated as a result of the proposal would be continued support to members of the military community who seek to become educators in Texas and the creation of additional certification pathways for military veterans, peace officers,

fire protection personnel, emergency medical services personnel, and full-time instructors for the Community College of the Air Force. There is no anticipated cost to persons who are required to comply with the proposal, unless the TEA staff is unable to qualify them for military-fee exemption provisions already established in rule by past legislation. Any individuals not eligible for the military-fee exemption provisions would be subject to the costs already established and applicable to anyone interested in pursuing teacher certification in Texas.

DATA AND REPORTING IMPACT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The proposal would have no new data and reporting impact.

PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The TEA staff has determined that the proposal would not require a written report or paperwork to be completed by a principal or classroom teacher.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: No changes have been made to this section since published as proposed. The proposal does not require an environmental impact analysis because the proposal does not include major environmental rules under TGC, §2001.0225.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public comment period on the proposal began on October 27, 2023, and ended on November 27, 2023. Any comments received will be provided to the SBEC under separate cover prior to the December 8, 2023 meeting. The SBEC will also take registered oral and written comments on this item during the December 8, 2023 meeting's public comment period in accordance with the SBEC board operating policies and procedures.

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

> Approve for adoption, subject to the State Board of Education review, the proposed revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 234, Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans, with an effective date of 20 days after filing the adoption notice with the *Texas Register*.

Staff Members Responsible:
Marilyn Cook, Senior Director, Educator Preparation and Certification
Trenton Law, Director, Educator Credentialing Services, Educator Preparation and Certification
Shelly Penney, License and Permit Specialist, Educator Preparation and Certification

Attachment:
Text of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 234, Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans

ATTACHMENT
Text of Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC

Chapter 234. Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans

§234.1. Purpose.

(a) The purpose of identifying military service members, military spouses, and military veterans is to establish a process to count applicable military service for timely admission into educator preparation programs, expedite the completion of certification credential reviews, support certification examination and licensure application fee exemptions as applicable, and support certification renewal of members of the military community.

(b) Effective September 1, 2023, in support of legislation passed by the 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2023, this chapter has been updated to include military veterans, peace officers, fire protection personnel, emergency medical services personnel, who meet the qualifications outlined in this chapter to be issued a three-year temporary certificate to be placed in a career and technology education assignment, and to include qualified instructors for the Community College of the Air Force to be issued a one-year temporary certificate upon enrollment in a Texas-approved educator preparation program.

(c) [~~(b)~~] In the event of conflict with any other rule in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 7, this chapter shall supersede with regard to the certification of military service members, military spouses, and military veterans.

§234.3. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Military service member--A person who is on active duty.

(2) Military spouse--A person who is married to a military service member.

(3) Military veteran--A person who has served on active duty and who was discharged or released from active duty.

(4) Active duty--Current full-time military service in the armed forces of the United States or active duty military service as a member of the Texas military forces, as defined by the Texas Government Code (TGC), §437.001, or similar military service of another state.

(5) Armed forces of the United States--The army, navy, air force, space force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States or a reserve unit of one of those branches of the armed forces.

(6) Permanent change of station order--United States armed forces active duty member document ordering a permanent change of station.

(7) Texas Education Agency staff--an employee of the Texas Education Agency (TEA) who performs administrative functions on behalf of the State Board for Educator Certification.

(8) Review of credentials--the licensure process completed by TEA staff for individuals certified to teach in other states or countries as specified in Chapter 230, Subchapter H, of this title (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).

(9) Peace officer--as defined by Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 2.12.

(10) Fire protection personnel--as defined by TGC, §419.021.

(11) Emergency medical services personnel--as defined by Health and Safety Code, §773.003.

(12) License--a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by law or a state agency rule that must be obtained by an individual to engage in a particular business, occupation, or profession.

(13) State agency--a department, board, bureau, commission, committee, division, office, council, or agency of the state.

§234.5. Certification of Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans.

(a) The application for certification of a military service member, military veteran, or 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 within 30 days of receipt of a complete application [~~as soon as practicable~~] .

(b) As soon as practicable after the issuance of a one-year certificate, Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff shall notify a military service member, a military spouse, and a military veteran , in writing or by email, [~~a military spouse~~] of the requirements for obtaining a standard Texas certificate.

(c) A military spouse who has been issued a one-year certificate prior to September 1, 2017, under the provisions of this chapter, is eligible for two additional years from the date of issuance, not to exceed a total of three years maximum, to align with provisions for a military spouse referenced in subsection (d) of this section.

(d) Effective September 1, 2017, a military spouse shall be issued a three-year temporary certificate upon completion of the review of credentials.

(e) Effective December 1, 2019, prior to beginning employment, a military spouse must declare his or her intent to teach in Texas with a license issued by another state department of education, by submitting an application and required documents for a review of credentials to the TEA and by completing the criminal background check. TEA staff must provide approval for the military spouse to teach in Texas a maximum of three years with credentials issued by another state.

(f) Effective December 1, 2023, a military service member shall be issued a three-year temporary certificate upon completion of the review of credentials, or, prior to beginning employment, a military service member must declare his or her intent to teach in Texas with a license issued by another state department of education, by submitting an application and required documents for a review of credentials to the TEA and completing the criminal background check. TEA staff must provide approval for the military service member to teach in Texas a maximum of three years with credentials issued by another state.

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

(h) [~~(g)~~] A military service member pursuing certification in career and technical education must meet requirements for the certificate, but for career and technical education certificate areas requiring experience and licensure, the military service member shall be entitled to substitute military experience in the trade for the required license or professional credential for the specific trade.

(i) [~~(h)~~] A military service member, military spouse, and military veteran shall complete educator examination requirements for certificate issuance as outlined in Texas Education Code, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, and rules in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 7, or qualify for an exemption from required Texas examinations through provisions in §152.1001 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Exceptions to Examination Requirements for Individuals Certified Outside the State).

(j) [~~(i)~~] A military [~~Military~~] service member [~~members~~] and a military veteran [~~veterans~~] are exempt from certification application fees that are paid to the state that lead to initial certification. These members of the military community are exempt from paying the portion of the examination registration fee that is paid to the TEA.

(k) [~~(j)~~] A military [~~Military~~] service member [~~members~~] and a military veteran [~~veterans~~] are exempt from certification application fees that are paid to the state that lead to initial certification resulting from a review of credentials, one-year certificate, or out-of-state standard certificate. These members of the military community are exempt from paying the portion of the examination registration fee that is paid to the TEA.

(l) [~~(k)~~] A military [~~Military~~] spouse is [~~spouses are~~] exempt from certification application fees that are paid to the state that lead to initial certification resulting from a review of credentials, three-year temporary certificate, or out-of-state standard certificate. This member [~~These members~~] of the military community is [~~are~~] exempt from paying the portion of the examination registration fee that is paid to the TEA.

(m) As applicable to meet residency requirements and establish acceptable identification for military-related fee exemption and other provisions, a military service member, military spouse, or military veteran can submit a copy of the permanent change of station order for the military service member, military spouse, or military veteran.

§234.6. Review of Credentials and Issuance of Licensure to Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans.

(a) To complete a review of credentials leading to issuance of licensure in Texas, each military service member [~~members~~], military veteran [~~veterans~~] , or military spouse [~~spouses~~] must submit an application for review of credentials, copies of standard certificates issued in the other state(s), and official transcripts showing degree(s) conferred and date(s).

(b) Upon completion of the review, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will notify each military service member, military veteran, or military spouse, as specified in paragraphs (1)-(3) of this subsection, to provide results of the licensure review and information on next steps in the licensure process as follows.

(1) A military [~~Military~~] service member [~~members~~] will receive written results of the credentials review and be issued the Texas standard certificate that aligns with certificate areas issued in other states following confirmation of exemption from or successful completion of required examinations and completion of a criminal background check.

(2) A military spouse [~~Military spouses~~] will receive written results of the credentials review and have the following three options to teach in Texas with:

(A) the license issued by another state department of education, confirmed by TEA to be in good standing;

(B) the Texas temporary three-year certificate already available under provisions in §234.5(d) of this title (relating to Certification of Military Service Members, Military Spouses, and Military Veterans); and

(C) the Texas standard certificate eligible for issuance immediately following a successful review of credentials by TEA , confirmation of exemption from or successful completion of required examinations, and completion of a criminal background check.

(3) A military veteran [~~Military veterans~~] will receive written results of the credentials review and be issued the Texas standard certificate that aligns with certificate areas issued in other states following confirmation of exemption from or successful completion of required examinations and completion of a criminal background check .

(c) A change in the marital status of a military spouse does not impact the provisions specified in subsection (b)(2)(A) and (B) of this section.

§234.9. Certification of Military Veterans, Peace Officers, Fire Protection Personnel, and Emergency Medical Services Personnel.

(a) Effective September 1, 2023, military veterans, peace officers, fire protection personnel, and emergency medical services personnel as defined in §234.3 of this title (relating to Definitions) shall be issued a one-time, nonrenewable, three-year temporary certificate for career and technology education if they meet the following:

(1) has served in the armed forces of the United States and was honorably discharged, retired, or released from active duty; or

(2) has served as a first responder and, while in good standing not because of pending or final disciplinary actions or a documented performance problem, retired, resigned, or separated from employment as a first responder; and

(A) has an associate degree from an accredited institution of higher education and 48 months of active duty military service or service as a first responder; or

(B) a bachelor's degree, which includes 60 semester credit hours completed at a public or private institution of higher education with a minimum grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale and military service or service as a first responder.

(b) A school district shall assign a mentor teacher to a classroom teacher who has been issued a temporary certificate to teach career and technology education under Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.0444, for at least two school years. A teacher assigned as a mentor must:

(1) to the extent practicable, teach in the same school;

(2) to the extent practicable, teach the same subject or grade level, as applicable; and

(3) meet the qualifications prescribed by commissioner of education rules adopted under TEC, §21.458(b), or §153.1011 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Mentor Program Allotment).

(c) An individual who meets the qualifications specified in subsection (a) of this section and who is interested in obtaining the three-year, nonrenewable temporary certificate, may submit the following items to the Texas Education Agency staff:

(1) a completed application;

(2) verification of military veteran status or licensure as a peace officer, fire protection services personnel, or emergency medical services personnel; and

(3) an official transcript showing degree conferred and conferral date, or successful completion of college coursework.

(d) A military veteran, peace officer, fire protection personnel, and emergency services personnel must enroll in a Texas-approved educator preparation program to complete requirements for issuance of the standard certificate.

§234.11. Certification of Full-Time Instructors for the Community College of the Air Force.

(a) Effective September 1, 2023, a one-year, temporary certificate may be issued to an individual who served as a full-time instructor for the Community College of the Airforce if he or she meets the following:

(1) holds a bachelor's degree as defined in §227.10 of this title (relating to Admission Criteria);

(2) has at least two semesters' experience as a full-time instructor for the Community College of the Air Force; and

(3) is currently enrolled in a Texas-approved educator preparation program.

(b) An individual who meets the qualifications specified in subsection (a) of this section and is interested in obtaining the one-year temporary certificate, may submit the following items to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff:

(1) a completed application;

(2) a copy of credentials to serve as an instructor for the Community College of the Air Force;

(3) an official transcript showing degree conferred and conferral date; and

(4) verification of at least two semesters' experience as a full-time instructor for the Community College of the Air Force.

(c) A qualified instructor for the Community College of the Air Force must take and pass all required examinations identified by TEA staff during the review of credentials and must complete any additional requirements specified for issuance of the standard certificate.