

Certification Fee Waivers for Special Education and Bilingual Education Under House Bill 2

TEACHER AND TEACHER CANDIDATE GUIDANCE

Effective June 4, 2025, House Bill 2 (HB 2), signed into law by Governor Abbott, introduces new certification fee waivers for teacher candidates and teachers pursuing certification in Special Education and Bilingual Education. Please review the guidance below if you are a teacher or teacher candidate seeking certification fee waivers.

CERTIFICATION FEES COVERED

- Exam Fee Waivers (First Attempt Only):** Candidates and teachers pursuing certification in eligible Special Education or Bilingual Education fields will have their **first attempt exam registration fee** waived.
 - This applies to both initial certification and additional certification by examination.
 - Teacher candidates are still responsible for pedagogy exam fees and fingerprinting fees.
- Certification Application Fee Waiver:** The \$78 certification application fee will be waived for eligible candidates who complete the required exams and follow the application process outlined below.

ELIGIBLE CERTIFICATION AREAS AND EXAMS

Certification Area	Associated Exam Fee now waived at first attempt
Bilingual Education Supplemental: Spanish	<ul style="list-style-type: none">164 Bilingual Education Supplemental TExES \$116190 Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test (BTLPT) – Spanish TExES \$116
Bilingual Education Supplemental: American Sign Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">164 Bilingual Education Supplemental TExES \$116184 American Sign Language (ASL) EC-12 TExES \$116073 Texas Assessment of Sign Communications- American Sign Language (TASC-ASL) \$116
Bilingual Education Supplemental: Arabic	164 Bilingual Education Supplemental TExES \$116
Bilingual Education Supplemental: Chinese	164 Bilingual Education Supplemental TExES \$116
Bilingual Education Supplemental: Japanese	164 Bilingual Education Supplemental TExES \$116
Bilingual Education Supplemental: Vietnamese	164 Bilingual Education Supplemental TExES \$116
Deafblind Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12	185 Deafblind EC-12 TExES \$136
Special Education Specialist: Early Childhood-Grade 12	186 Special Education Specialist: EC-12 TExES \$136
Special Education: Early Childhood-Grade 12	161 Special Education EC-12 TExES (last operational date 08/31/2025) \$116
Special Education Supplemental	163 Special Education Supplemental TExES (last operational date 08/31/2025) \$116
Teacher of Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Early Childhood-Grade 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">181 Deaf and Hard of Hearing EC-12 TExES \$116072 TASC \$116073 TASC-ASL \$116
Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">182 Visually Impaired TExES \$116283 Braille TExES \$116

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HOW TO ACCESS WAIVERS

APPLYING FOR EXAM FEE WAIVERS

For those who register for eligible exams from 6/4/25 through 7/31/25:

Register and pay the exam fee on the [Texas Educator Certification Examination Program website](#). You will automatically receive a refund—no action is required. Reimbursements for the \$116 or \$136 exam administration fee will begin 7/1/25 and continue weekly.

For those who register for eligible exams on or after 8/1/25:

Register on the [Texas Educator Certification Examination Program website](#). The exam fee will be **automatically waived** beginning on 8/1/25—no additional steps are necessary.

APPLYING FOR THE CERTIFICATION APPLICATION FEE WAIVER

- ✓ **Verify your passing exam scores are reported:** Following completion of testing, you will verify that all required passing examination scores for Special Education certification and/or Bilingual Education certification are reported in the “Examination History” tab of your Educator Certification Online System (ECOS) account.
- ✓ **Submit your online application:** Once verified, submit one of the appropriate online applications to TEA.
- ✓ **Submit a Help Desk Ticket for the application fee override:** Following submission of the online certification application, submit a [Help Desk Ticket](#) to Educator Certification with the subject line: SPED or BIL Certification Application Fee Waiver Request per HB 2. This will alert TEA staff to complete a final review of your application and process the manual override of the \$78 certification application fee.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT CERTIFICATION FEE WAIVERS

If you have more questions about the fee waiver processes above, please submit a TEA [Help Desk Ticket](#) to Educator Certification. Please use the subject line: Time-Sensitive Inquiry HB 2 Fee Waivers for Special Education and Bilingual Education to ensure your ticket gets prioritized.

Help Desk Questions:

