

Chapter 228. Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs

Subchapter E. Educator Candidate Clinical Experiences

§228.61. Required Clinical Experiences.

- (a) To prepare a candidate for initial certification in the classroom teacher certification class, an educator preparation program (EPP) shall provide the candidate one of the following:
 - (1) clinical teaching that meets the standards in §228.67 of this title (relating to Clinical Teaching); or
 - (2) an internship that meets the requirements of §228.73 of this title (relating to Internship); or
 - (3) a residency that meets the requirements of §228.65 of this title (relating to Residency).
- (b) Candidates completing requirements through a preservice alternative certification route must complete pre-internship clinical teaching as described in §228.68 of this title (relating to Pre-internship Clinical Teaching) in addition to an internship identified in subsection (a)(3) of this section.
- (c) Candidates participating in an internship or a clinical teaching assignment must experience a full range of professional responsibilities that shall include the start of the school year. The start of the school year is defined as the first 15 instructional days of the school year. If these experiences cannot be provided through clinical teaching or an internship, they must be provided through field-based experiences, or for a preservice alternative certification program, through the pre-internship clinical teaching assignment.
- (d) To prepare a candidate for initial certification in a class other than classroom teacher, an EPP shall provide a practicum for a minimum of 160 clock-hours that meets the requirements in §228.81 of this title (relating to Clinical Experience for Certification Other Than Classroom Teacher).

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.61 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.61 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.63. Locations for Required Clinical Experiences.

- (a) An internship, pre-internship clinical teaching, clinical teaching, practicum, or residency experience must take place in-person in a Prekindergarten-Grade 12 school setting rather than a distance learning lab or virtual school setting.
- (b) An internship, pre-internship clinical teaching, clinical teaching, or residency experience for certificates that include early childhood may be completed at a Head Start Program with the following stipulations:
 - (1) a certified teacher is available as a trained mentoring educator;
 - (2) the Head Start program is affiliated with the federal Head Start program and approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA);
 - (3) the Head Start program teaches three- and four-year-old students; and
 - (4) the state's prekindergarten curriculum guidelines are being implemented.
- (c) An internship, pre-internship clinical teaching, clinical teaching, practicum, or residency experience shall not take place in a setting where the candidate:

- (1) has an administrative role over the intern mentor teacher, cooperating teacher, site supervisor, or host teacher; or
 - (2) is related to the field supervisor, intern mentor teacher, cooperating teacher, site supervisor, or host teacher by blood (consanguinity) within the third degree or by marriage (affinity) within the second degree.
- (d) School districts and charter schools authorized under Texas Education Code, Chapter 12, all Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools, wherever located, and all schools accredited by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC) are approved by the TEA for purposes of internship, clinical teaching, practicum, and/or residency.
- (e) Subject to all the requirements of this section, the TEA may approve a school that is not a public school accredited by the TEA as a site for internships, clinical teaching, practicums, and/or residency.
- (f) An educator preparation program (EPP) may file an application, with the appropriate fee specified in §229.9 of this title (relating to Fees for Educator Preparation Program Approval and Accountability), with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school for a candidate's placement located within any state or territory of the United States, as a site for clinical teaching or practicum required by this chapter.
 - (1) The clinical teaching or practicum site may be approved for a candidate who must complete requirements outside the state of Texas due to the following reasons if they occur following admission to the EPP:
 - (A) military assignment of candidate or spouse;
 - (B) illness of candidate or family member for whom the candidate is the primary caretaker;
 - (C) candidate becomes the primary caretaker for a family member residing out of state; or
 - (D) candidate or spouse transfer of employment.
 - (2) The application shall identify the circumstances that necessitate the request to complete clinical teaching or practicum outside of the state of Texas and be in a form developed by TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum:
 - (A) the accreditation(s) held by the school;
 - (B) a crosswalk comparison of the alignment of the instructional standards of the school with those of the applicable Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and State Board for Educator Certification educator standards;
 - (C) the certification, credentials, and training of the field supervisor(s) who will supervise candidates in the school; and
 - (D) the measures that will be taken by the EPP to ensure that the candidate's experience will be equivalent to that of a candidate in a Texas public school accredited by the TEA.
- (g) An EPP may file an application, with the appropriate fee specified in §229.9 of this title, with the TEA for approval, subject to periodic review, of a public or private school for a candidate's placement located outside the United States, as a site for clinical teaching or practicum required by this chapter.
 - (1) The site may be approved for a candidate who must complete requirements outside the United States due to the following reasons if they occur following admission to the EPP:
 - (A) military assignment of candidate or spouse;
 - (B) illness of candidate or family member for whom the candidate is the primary caretaker;
 - (C) candidate becomes the primary caretaker for a family member residing out of country; or
 - (D) candidate or spouse transfer of employment.

- (2) The application shall identify the circumstances that necessitate the request to complete clinical teaching or practicum outside of the United States and be in a form developed by TEA staff and shall include, at a minimum:
 - (A) the same provisions required in subsection (f)(2) of this section for schools located within any state or territory of the United States;
 - (B) a description of the on-site program personnel and program support that will be provided;
 - (C) a description of any risks to candidate or supervising personnel associated with placement in the country specified in the application and options for mitigating risks; and
 - (D) a description of the school's recognition by the U.S. State Department Office of Overseas Schools.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.63 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.63 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.65. Residency.

- (a) To offer a residency, an educator preparation program (EPP) shall provide the following programmatic requirements for a candidate prior to issuing an enhanced standard certificate as prescribed in §230.39 of this title (relating to Enhanced Standard Certificates):
 - (1) the residency must include a minimum of one full school year of clinical experience, including the first and last instructional days with students, in a classroom supervised by a host teacher in the classroom teacher assignment or assignments that match the certification category or categories for which the candidate is prepared by the EPP;
 - (2) the residency clinical experience must meet a minimum of 750 hours in total, with a minimum of 21 hours per week during a school week that does not include school district or campus closures or disruptions (e.g., inclement weather, holidays). In the event of a district or campus closure that results in the need for reduced residency clinical experience hours during a given week, the program must document the need for the reduced hours;
 - (3) the minimum may be reduced to no less than 700 hours if the candidate is absent from the clinical assignment due to a documented instance of parental leave, military leave, extended illness, or bereavement or for the completion of coursework related to earning a disciplinary degree with a teaching certificate; and
 - (4) the beginning date of a residency clinical experience for the purpose of field supervision is the first day of instruction with students in the school or district in which the residency takes place.
- (b) An EPP offering a residency shall ensure that:
 - (1) residency candidates are assigned to one distinct field site for the duration of the residency. EPPs may allow exceptions with a documented process for candidates seeking certification in more than one certification category, candidates seeking certification in Early Childhood-Grade 12 certification categories, and candidates with reasonable human resources concerns. The program and the district must both sign documentation that the benefits of two placements outweigh the consequence of not assigning one distinct field placement. Candidates who receive exceptions shall be placed in no more than two distinct field sites;

- (2) during the course of the residency, the residency candidate shall engage in increased responsibility for student instruction, including coteaching and leading classroom instruction for at least 400 hours; and
 - (3) a residency candidate must experience a full range of professional responsibilities during the residency.
- (c) In addition to the benchmarks and structured assessments required under §228.31(c) of this title (relating to Minimum Educator Preparation Program Obligations to All Candidates), the EPP shall manage and support candidate progression through the dimensions described in subsection (f) of this section and determine readiness to proceed to the next level of increased responsibility for student instruction during the residency, including establishing performance gates with performance tasks observed and evaluated by the field supervisor that require residency candidates to demonstrate mastery of certain educator standards to progress to the next level of responsibility for student instruction. Performance gates must be conducted at least four times a year and occur at least twice per semester.
- (d) The EPP must provide ongoing support to a candidate as described in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Support for Candidates During Required Clinical Experiences) for the full term of the residency, unless, prior to the expiration of that term:
 - (1) the candidate resigns or is terminated by the school or district;
 - (2) the candidate is discharged or is released from the EPP;
 - (3) the candidate withdraws from the EPP; or
 - (4) the residency assignment does not meet the requirements described in this subchapter.
- (e) If the candidate leaves the residency assignment for any of the reasons identified in subsection (d) of this section, the EPP, the campus or district personnel, and the candidate must inform each other within one calendar week of the candidate's last day in the assignment.
- (f) A candidate participating in a residency shall be eligible for an enhanced standard certificate by completing all of the following:
 - (1) the requirements as prescribed in §230.39(b) of this title (relating to Enhanced Standard Certificates);
 - (2) programmatic requirements under subsections (a)-(c) of this section;
 - (3) the requirements of the following proficiencies in §150.1002 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Assessment of Teacher Performance) for pedagogical skills that are used by the program and approved by the state and meet the Proficient performance level measure in each of the following dimensions:
 - (A) Planning Dimension 1.1: Standards and Alignment;
 - (B) Planning Dimension 1.2: Data and Assessment;
 - (C) Instruction Dimension 2.1: Achieving Expectations;
 - (D) Instruction Dimension 2.2: Content Knowledge and Expertise;
 - (E) Instruction Dimension 2.3: Communication;
 - (F) Learning Environment Dimension 3.1: Classroom Environment, Routines, and Procedures;
 - (G) Learning Environment Dimension 3.2: Managing Student Behavior;
 - (H) Learning Environment Dimension 3.3: Classroom Culture;
 - (I) Professional Practices and Responsibilities Dimension 4.1: Professional Demeanor and Ethics;
 - (J) Professional Practices and Responsibilities Dimension 4.2: Goal Setting; and

(K) Professional Practices and Responsibilities Dimension 4.3: Professional Development.

- (g) A residency is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor, host teacher, and campus supervisor recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for an enhanced standard certificate. If the field supervisor, host teacher, or campus supervisor do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for an enhanced standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation (e.g., evidence of failure to demonstrate proficiency in educator standards, evidence of failure to meet program requirements, evidence of failure to adhere to campus policies) supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and the field supervisor, the host teacher, or the campus supervisor.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.65 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.65 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.67. Clinical Teaching.

- (a) A candidate seeking initial certification as a classroom teacher must have a clinical teaching assignment for each subject area in which the candidate is seeking certification.
- (b) The required duration of a clinical teaching assignment shall be a minimum of 490 hours. For the purposes of satisfying this requirement, the following provisions apply.
- (1) At least 280 clinical teaching hours must be completed in the subject area and grade level of the certification sought, under the supervision of a cooperating teacher as specified in §228.91 of this title (relating to Intern Mentor Teachers, Cooperating Teachers, Host Teachers, and Site Supervisors), including planning periods.
 - (2) The remaining clinical teaching hours may be accrued through additional instructional hours during the school day, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills-based extracurricular activities that directly relate to the grade-level and subject area of the certification sought, and professional development hours that occur within the assignment start and end date. The candidate must be under the supervision of a certified educator for the remaining required hours of clinical teaching.
 - (3) The minimum required clinical teaching hours may be reduced to no less than 455 hours if the candidate is absent from the clinical teaching assignment due to a documented instance of parental leave, military leave, medical leave, or bereavement.
 - (4) Candidates completing clinical teaching in a Preparing and Retaining Educators Through Partnership traditional program must complete the clinical teaching hours in one district during the clinical experience.
- (c) For certification in more than one subject area that cannot be taught concurrently during the same period of the school day as the primary teaching assignment, at least 70 hours of the clinical teaching requirement in subsection (b)(2) of this section must be completed in each additional subject area if and only if:
- (1) the educator preparation program (EPP) is approved to offer preparation in the certification category required for the additional assignment;
 - (2) the EPP provides ongoing support for each assignment as prescribed in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Support for Candidates During Required Clinical Experiences);
 - (3) the EPP provides coursework and training for each assignment to adequately prepare the candidate to be effective in the classroom; and

- (4) the campus administrator agrees to assign a qualified cooperating teacher appropriate to each assignment.
- (d) The EPP must structure the clinical teaching assignment so that the candidate is provided opportunities for co-teaching and increased instructional responsibility, including leading classroom instruction, over the course of the clinical teaching assignment and as the candidate demonstrates mastery of educator standards.
- (e) Clinical teaching is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor and cooperating teacher recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation (e.g., evidence of failure to demonstrate proficiency in educator standards, evidence of failure to meet program requirements, evidence of failure to adhere to campus policies) supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or cooperating teacher.
- (f) The EPP may require additional hours of clinical teaching if the first experience was not successful.
- (g) An EPP must provide ongoing support to a candidate as described in Subchapter F of this chapter for the full term of the initial and any additional clinical teaching, unless, prior to the expiration of that term:
 - (1) a standard certificate is issued to the candidate;
 - (2) the candidate is discharged or is released from the EPP; or
 - (3) the candidate withdraws from the EPP.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.67 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.67 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective March 11, 2025, 50 TexReg 1813; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.68. Pre-internship Clinical Teaching.

- (a) Candidates completing a preservice alternative certification program must complete a pre-internship clinical teaching experience that includes at least 120 clock-hours of pre-internship clinical teaching in the subject area and grade level of the certification sought, under the supervision of a cooperating teacher, as specified in §228.91 of this title (relating to Intern Mentor Teachers, Cooperating Teachers, Host Teachers, and Site Supervisors), in which the candidate:
 - (1) completes a minimum of 70 clock-hours where the candidate has increasing responsibility for student instruction, including lesson preparation and rehearsal, co-teaching, and leading classroom instruction with at least 15 of the clock-hours accrued by leading classroom instruction across at least 8 full lesson cycles and with a sequence of at least three consecutive lessons;
 - (2) completes the remaining required clock-hours where the candidate engages in professional responsibilities, which could include, but are not limited to, additional co-teaching and leading classroom instruction; student assessment delivery and/or analysis; parent conferences; admission, review, and dismissal committee meetings; participation in professional learning communities; small group facilitation; individual tutoring; and additional opportunities for lesson preparation and rehearsal; and

- (3) demonstrates acceptable progress toward proficiency in implementation of the pedagogical skills identified in §228.41(a)(2) of this title (relating to Preservice Coursework and Training for Classroom Teacher Candidates) in the pre-internship clinical teaching classroom.
- (b) Candidates who do not demonstrate acceptable progress toward proficiency in the pedagogical skills required in subsection (a)(3) of this section must be placed by the EPP on a support plan that is developed in partnership between the EPP and school district or charter school, to be completed by the candidate during the internship.
- (c) Candidates must complete all pre-internship clinical teaching requirements within a nine-month period.
- (d) If the candidate completes the pre-internship clinical teaching requirement in a different school district than the district in which the internship is completed, the EPP must share information with the internship district regarding the candidate's pre-internship progress toward proficiency, including any support plan developed as specified in subsection (b) of this section.
- (e) If a pre-internship clinical teaching placement is not available in the subject and/or grade level of the certification sought by the candidate, the EPP and district must ensure that the candidate's pre-internship placement is in a subject area and/or grade level that most closely meets their certification area. A support plan shall be developed by the EPP and school district partnership to support the candidate's transition to their internship placement.
- (f) Candidates completing a preservice alternative certification program must complete the pre-internship clinical teaching experience prior to beginning the internship required in §228.73 of this title (relating to Internship).
- (g) Candidates who successfully complete the Preparing and Retaining Educators Through Partnership Grow Your Own Program pathway are exempt from completing the pre-internship clinical teaching identified in subsection (a)(1)-(3) of this section.
- (h) Candidates who complete pre-internship clinical teaching are not required to complete the 50 hours of field-based experiences required in §228.41(a)(1) of this title (relating to Preservice Coursework and Training for Classroom Teacher Candidates) and in §228.43 of this title (relating to Preservice Field-Based Experiences for Classroom Teacher Candidates).

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.68 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.68 adopted to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.69. Clinical Teaching While Employed as Educational Aide.

Candidates employed as certified educational aides may satisfy their clinical teaching assignment requirement through their instructional duties. Clinical teaching must meet requirements for clinical teaching as specified in §228.67 of this title (relating to Clinical Teaching) and in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Support for Candidates During Required Clinical Experiences).

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.69 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a); 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4); 21.044; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.0443; 21.045(a); 21.0452; 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); and 21.051; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.69 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531.

§228.73. Internship.

- (a) A candidate completing an alternative certification program or a preservice alternative certification program must complete an internship. A candidate in an alternative certification program who has exhausted the three years available to complete an internship as identified in §230.36 of this title (relating to Intern Certificates) or §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates) may complete clinical teaching if the educator preparation program (EPP) is approved to offer clinical teaching as identified in §228.15 of this title (relating to Additional Approval).
- (b) With the exception of candidates pursuing certification in areas that do not require a bachelor's degree as identified in §233.14 of this title (relating to Career and Technical Education (Certificates requiring experience and preparation in a skill area)), a candidate must hold, at minimum, a conferred bachelor's degree to participate in an internship.
- (c) While participating in an internship, a candidate must hold the appropriate intern certificate or probationary certificate, or for candidates pursuing certification through the preservice alternative certification route, an intern with preservice certificate, that is effective on or before the assignment start date of the internship and is valid for the entire duration of the internship. The EPP must verify and document that the candidate's intern, intern with preservice, or probationary certificate is active prior to the start of the internship assignment.
- (d) The duration of the internship must be a minimum of one full school year and must be completed in the classroom teacher assignment or assignments that match the certification category or categories for which the candidate is prepared by the EPP.
 - (1) A candidate completing an internship through the preservice alternative certification route while holding the intern with preservice certificate as described in §230.36 of this title must complete the internship in one full school year in one school district.
 - (2) A candidate completing an internship through an alternative certification route may complete the full school-year internship while holding an intern certificate or a probationary certificate.
- (e) An EPP may permit an internship of up to 30 school days less than the required minimum for parental leave, military leave, illness, bereavement leave, or if the late hire date is after the first day of the school year.
- (f) The beginning date of an internship for the purpose of field supervision is the first day of instruction with students in the classroom for the school or district in which the internship takes place.
- (g) An internship assignment shall not be less than an average of four hours each day in the subject area and grade level of certification sought. The average includes intermissions and recesses but does not include conference and lunch periods. An EPP may permit an additional internship assignment of less than an average of four hours each day only if all of the following are met:
 - (1) the employing school or district notifies the candidate and the EPP in writing that an assignment of less than four hours will be required;
 - (2) the primary assignment is not less than an average of four hours each day in the subject area and grade level of certification sought;
 - (3) the EPP is approved to offer preparation in the certification category required for the additional assignment;
 - (4) the EPP provides ongoing support for each assignment as prescribed in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Support for Candidates During Required Clinical Experiences); and
 - (5) the EPP provides coursework and training for each assignment to adequately prepare the candidate to be effective in the classroom.
- (h) An EPP may extend the internship or recommend an additional internship if:
 - (1) the candidate has not exhausted the number of years allowed in a classroom prior to achieving a standard certificate as required in §230.36 of this title and in §230.37 of this title; and

- (2) the EPP certifies that the first internship was not successful, the EPP has developed a plan to address any deficiencies identified by the candidate, the candidate's field supervisor, and/or the candidate's intern mentor teacher, and the EPP implements the plan during the additional internship; or
 - (3) the EPP certifies that the first internship was successful and that the candidate is making satisfactory progress toward completing the EPP before the end of the extended internship. EPPs are not required to provide formal observations of candidates who are completing an extension following a successful internship year but must provide ongoing support as needed while the candidate is in the assignment.
- (i) An EPP must provide ongoing support to a candidate as described in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Support for Candidates During Required Clinical Experiences) for the full term of the initial and any additional internship or internship extension, including formal observations required in §228.109(b) of this title (relating to Formal Observations for Candidates in Internship Assignments) for candidates completing an additional internship that must be completed due to an unsuccessful first internship as described in subsection (h)(2) of this section, unless, prior to the expiration of that term:
 - (1) a standard certificate is issued to the candidate during any additional internship under an intern or probationary certificate;
 - (2) the candidate resigns, is non-renewed, or is terminated by the school or district;
 - (3) the candidate is discharged or is released from the EPP;
 - (4) the candidate withdraws from the EPP;
 - (5) the candidate is a late hire and fails to meet the pre-internship requirements within the first half of the internship in accordance with §228.55 of this title (relating to Late Hire Candidates); or
 - (6) the internship assignment does not meet the requirements described in this subchapter.
- (j) If the candidate leaves the internship assignment for any of the reasons identified in subsection (i)(2)-(6) of this section:
 - (1) the candidate must inform the EPP within 10 business days of the candidate's last day in the assignment; and
 - (2) the TEA must receive the certificate deactivation request with all related documentation from the EPP, in a format determined by the TEA, within 15 business days of the candidate's last day of employment or within 15 business days from the date the EPP receives notification of the candidate's last day of employment.
- (k) The EPP must communicate the requirements in subsection (j) of this section to candidates and campus or district personnel prior to the assignment start date.
- (l) An internship is successful when the candidate demonstrates proficiency in each of the educator standards for the assignment and the field supervisor and campus supervisor recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or campus supervisor do not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation (e.g., evidence of failure to demonstrate proficiency in educator standards, evidence of failure to meet program requirements, evidence of failure to adhere to campus policies) supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or campus supervisor.
- (m) An internship for a Trade and Industrial Workforce Training certificate may be at an accredited institution of higher education if the candidate teaches not less than an average of four hours each day, including intermissions and recesses, in a dual credit career and technical instructional setting as defined by Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter D, of this title (relating to Dual Credit Partnerships Between Secondary Schools and Texas Public Colleges).

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.73 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025;

21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.73 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective March 11, 2025, 50 TexReg 1813; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.75. Clinical Experience for Candidate Seeking Certification as Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments (TVI) Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

- (a) For a candidate seeking certification as a Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments (TVI) Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12, an educator preparation program (EPP) shall provide a clinical experience of at least 350 clock-hours in a supervised educator assignment in a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for a candidate seeking certification as a TVI.
- (b) The clinical experience is successful when the field supervisor recommends to the EPP that the TVI certification candidate should be recommended for a TVI supplemental certification.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.75 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a); 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4); 21.044; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.0443; 21.045(a); 21.0452; 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); and 21.051; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.75 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531.

§228.77. Clinical Experience for Candidate Seeking Certification as Deafblind (DB) Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

- (a) For a candidate seeking certification in the Deafblind (DB) Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12, an educator preparation program (EPP) shall provide a clinical experience of at least 350 clock-hours in a supervised educator assignment in a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA for a candidate seeking certification in the Deafblind supplemental.
- (b) The clinical experience is successful when the field supervisor recommends to the EPP that the Deafblind certification candidate should be recommended for a Deafblind supplemental certification.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.77 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a); 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4); 21.044; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.0443; 21.045(a); 21.0452; 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); and 21.051; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.77 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531.

§228.79. Exemptions from Required Clinical Experiences for Classroom Teacher Candidates.

- (a) Under Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.050(c), a candidate who receives a bachelor's degree required for a teaching certificate on the basis of higher education coursework completed while receiving an exemption from tuition and fees under TEC, §54.363, is exempt from the requirements of this chapter relating to field-based experience, internship, clinical teaching, or residency.
- (b) Under TEC, §21.0487(c)(2)(B), a candidate's employment by a school or district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor before the person was enrolled in an educator preparation program (EPP) or while the person is enrolled in an EPP exempts the candidate from any clinical teaching, internship, residency, or field-based experience program requirement.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.79 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025;

21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.79 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.

§228.81. Clinical Experience for Certification Other Than Classroom Teacher.

- (a) During the practicum, the candidate must demonstrate proficiency in each of the educator standards for the certificate class being sought.
- (b) A practicum may not take place exclusively during a summer recess.
- (c) An intern certificate or probationary certificate may be issued to a candidate for a certification in a class other than classroom teacher who meets the requirements and conditions, including the subject matter knowledge requirement, prescribed in §230.36 of this title (relating to Intern Certificates) and §230.37 of this title (relating to Probationary Certificates).
- (d) An educator preparation program (EPP) may require additional hours of a practicum, including a practicum under an intern or probationary certificate if:
 - (1) the EPP certifies that the first practicum was not successful, the EPP has developed a plan to address any deficiencies identified by the candidate, the candidate's field supervisor, and/or the candidate's site supervisor, and the EPP implements the plan during the additional practicum; or
 - (2) the EPP certifies that the first practicum was successful and that the candidate is making satisfactory progress toward completing the EPP before the end of the additional practicum.
- (e) A practicum is successful when the field supervisor and the site supervisor recommend to the EPP that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate. If either the field supervisor or site supervisor does not recommend that the candidate should be recommended for a standard certificate, the person who does not recommend the candidate must provide documentation (e.g., evidence of failure to demonstrate proficiency in educator standards, evidence of failure to meet program requirements, evidence of failure to adhere to campus policies) supporting the lack of recommendation to the candidate and either the field supervisor or site supervisor.
- (f) An EPP must provide ongoing support to a candidate as described in Subchapter F of this chapter (relating to Support for Candidates During Required Clinical Experiences) for the full term of the initial and any additional practicum, unless, prior to the expiration of that term:
 - (1) a standard certificate is issued to the candidate;
 - (2) the candidate is discharged or is released from the EPP; or
 - (3) the candidate withdraws from the EPP.

Statutory Authority: The provisions of this §228.81 issued under the Texas Education Code, §§21.003(a), 21.031; 21.041(b)(1)-(4) and (e); 21.0412, as added by House Bill (HB) 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.044; 21.044(i) and (j), as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0441; 21.0442(c); 21.04421, 21.04422, and 21.04423, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.0443, as amended by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; 21.045(a); 21.0452, 21.0453; 21.0454; 21.0455; 21.046(b) and (c); 21.048(a); 21.0485; 21.0487(c); 21.0489(c); 21.04891; 21.049(a); 21.0491; 21.050(a)-(c); 21.051; 21.067, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and 21.901-21.905, as added by HB 2, 89th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2025; and the Texas Occupations Code, §55.007.

Source: The provisions of this §228.81 adopted to be effective September 1, 2024, 49 TexReg 3531; amended to be effective August 2, 2026, 51 TexReg 4845.