

AEA Campus Registration Criteria 2026

Campuses must meet thirteen criteria to register for alternative education accountability (AEA). However, the requirements in criteria 8–13 may not apply to charter school campuses (depending on the terms of the charter) or for community-based dropout recovery campuses established in accordance with TEC §29.081(e).

- 1) The Alternative Education Campus (AEC) must have its own county-district-campus number for which TSDS PEIMS data are submitted, and assessments are coded. A program operated within or supported by another campus does not qualify.
- 2) The AEC must have its own county-district-campus number on TSDS PEIMS Fall Snapshot day.
- 3) The AEC must be identified in AskTED (Ask Texas Education Directory database) as an alternative instructional campus. This is a self-designation that districts and charter schools request via AskTED.
- 4) The AEC must be dedicated to serving students at risk of dropping out of school as defined in TEC §29.081(d). Each AEC must have at least 75 percent at-risk student enrollment at the AEC verified through current-year TSDS PEIMS fall enrollment data.
- 5) At least 90 percent of students at the AEC must be enrolled in grades 6–12 and verified through current-year TSDS PEIMS fall enrollment data.
- 6) The AEC must operate on its own campus budget.
- 7) The AEC must offer non-traditional settings and methods of instructional delivery designed to meet the needs of the students served on the AEC.
- 8) The AEC cannot be the only middle school or high school listed for its district in AskTED.
- 9) The AEC must have an appropriately certified, full-time administrator whose primary duty is the administration of the AEC.
- 10) The AEC must have appropriately certified teachers assigned in all areas, including special education, bilingual education, and/or English as a second language (ESL), to serve students eligible for such services.
- 11) The AEC must provide each student the opportunity to attend a 75,600-minute school year as defined in TEC §25.081(a), according to the needs of each student.
- 12) If the campus has students served by special education, the students must be placed at the AEC by their Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee. If the campus is a residential facility, the students must have been placed in the facility by the district.
- 13) Students served by special education must receive all services outlined in their current individualized education programs (IEPs). Emergent bilingual students/English learners (EB students/ELs) must receive all services outlined by the language proficiency assessment committee (LPAC). Students served by special education or language programs must be served by appropriately certified teachers.