

The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) adopts an amendment to 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §230.55, concerning requirements for Educational Aide I certificate. The amendment is adopted with changes to the proposed text as published in the June 3, 2022 issue of the *Texas Register* (47 TexReg 3217) and will be republished. The adopted amendment updates requirements for issuance of the Educational Aide I certificate to high school students who qualify for industry-based certification. The adopted amendment also provides technical cross-reference and State Board of Education (SBOE) action updates.

REASONED JUSTIFICATION: The SBEC rules in 19 TAC Chapter 230, Subchapter E, specify the requirements for issuance of an educational aide certificate. The following provides a description of changes to 19 TAC §230.55.

The adopted amendment to §230.55(4) includes a technical cross-reference edit to reflect recent SBOE updates to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) rule chapters for Career and Technical Education and to change references to Education and Training from Chapter 130, Subchapter E, to newly adopted Chapter 127, Subchapter G, Education and Training.

The adopted amendment to §230.55(4) also expands the list of SBOE-approved education and training course options to be completed by high school students to qualify for the Educational Aide I certificate. The adopted amendment allows high school students, who qualify for an industry-based certification, additional options for courses they can take to fulfill the three-credit requirement detailed in §230.55(4) and will continue to allow schools to accurately reflect these students as "career ready" in their accountability measures. The number of credits required to qualify for the Educational Aide I certificate remains unchanged.

The expanded list of approved education and training course options requires the expansion of §230.55(4), wherein the existing two training course options are in relettered subparagraphs (G) and (H), and the additional training course options are in new subparagraphs (A)-(F), with §230.55(4) organized by ascending training course section number. The adopted amendment to §230.55(G) and (H) includes the technical cross-reference edits to reflect recent TEKS chapter updates that align with the relevant education and training courses from Chapter 130, Subchapter E, to newly adopted Chapter 127, Subchapter G.

At adoption and in response to public comment, the SBEC changed the amended language of 19 TAC §230.55(4) to include the Human Growth and Development courses that are listed in 19 TAC §127.311 and §127.323 as qualifying courses for the Educational Aide I certificate. The list of education and training courses were relettered accordingly due to the addition of the two courses at adoption.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND RESPONSES. The public comment period on the proposal began June 3, 2022, and ended July 5, 2022. The SBEC also provided an opportunity for registered oral and written comments on the proposal at the July 22, 2022 meeting in accordance with the SBEC board operating policies and procedures. The following public comments were received on the proposal.

Comment: Four Texas educators commented that the Human Growth and Development course should be added to the list of courses considered to qualify for industry-based certification.

Response: The SBEC agrees. The stated intent of the SBEC in its proposal of the rule amendment was to include all the education and training courses specified by the SBOE in 19 TAC Chapter 127. The Human Growth and Development courses are listed in 19 TAC §127.311 and §127.323 and, therefore, should be included in the qualifying courses for the Educational Aide I certificate. At adoption, the SBEC added Human Growth and Development to the list of courses.

The SBOE took no action on the review of amendment to §230.55 at the September 2, 2022 SBOE meeting.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The amendment is adopted under Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.041(a), which states the board may adopt rules as necessary for its own procedures; and TEC, §21.041(b)(1)-(4), which requires the SBEC to propose rules that provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, in a manner consistent with the TEC, Chapter 21, Subchapter B, and requires the SBEC

to propose rules that specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates, the period for which each class of educator certificate is valid, and the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate.

CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE. The amendment implements Texas Education Code (TEC), §21.041(a) and (b)(1)-(4).

<rule>

§230.55. Certification Requirements for Educational Aide I.

An applicant for an Educational Aide I certificate shall meet the requirements in either paragraphs (1) and (2) of this section or paragraphs (3) and (4) of this section as follows:

- (1) hold a high school diploma, the equivalent of a high school diploma, or higher; and
- (2) have experience working with students or parents as approved by the employing superintendent. Experience may be work in church-related schools, day camps, youth groups, private schools, licensed daycare centers, or similar experience; or
- (3) be a high school student 18 years of age or older; and
- (4) have a final grade of 70 or better in two or more education and training courses specified in Chapter 127, Subchapter G, of Part 2 of this title (relating to Education and Training) for three or more credits verified in writing by the superintendent of the district in which the credits were earned. The education and training courses must include:
 - (A) Human Growth and Development, as described in §127.311 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Human Growth and Development (One Credit), Adopted 2015); or
 - (B) Child Development, as described in §127.317 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Child Development (One Credit), Adopted 2021); or
 - (C) Child Guidance, as described in §127.318 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Child Guidance (Two Credits), Adopted 2021); or
 - (D) Practicum in Early Learning, as described in §127.320 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Practicum in Early Learning (Two Credits), Adopted 2021); or
 - (E) Human Growth and Development, as described in §127.323 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Human Growth and Development (One Credit), Adopted 2021); or
 - (F) Communication and Technology in Education, as described in §127.324 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Communication and Technology in Education (One Credit), Adopted 2021); or
 - (G) Instructional Practices, as described in §127.325 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Instructional Practices (Two Credits), Adopted 2021); or
 - (H) Practicum in Education and Training, as described in §127.326 of Part 2 of this title (relating to Practicum in Education and Training (Two Credits), Adopted 2021).