

School Counselor (252) Exam Overview and Transition FAQ

The updated School Counselor (252) TExES certification exam will launch on September 6, 2021. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding the exam launch and candidate registration, exam transition and program requirements, and candidate preparation resources can be found below.

Exam Launch and Candidate Registration

When does the School Counselor (252) exam launch?

The 252 exam is scheduled to launch **September 6, 2021**, with a first score reporting date of **October 1, 2021**.

When can candidates begin registering for this exam?

For candidates that already have approval to take the exam, the School Counselor (252) registration will auto populate. Candidates can begin registering for this redesigned exam on **July 27, 2021**.

When is the first score reporting for the School Counselor (252) exam?

The first score reporting date will be **October 1, 2021**.

Who should take the School Counselor (252) exam?

Candidates seeking an intern, probationary or standard certification in School Counselor: EC-12 should take the School Counselor (252) TExES exam. Any candidate who enrolls in their program as of Summer 2021 or has not completed their testing requirement prior to September 5, 2021 will take the 252 exam.

Will this exam have an introductory period, and if so, what can candidates expect?

The School Counselor (252) exam introductory period will run from **September 6, 2021 through May 6, 2022**. During the exam introductory period, an initial cut score will be established to support the transition into the new exam. Within the introductory period, candidates must meet a minimum threshold of items correct to pass the exam.

Exam Transition and Program Requirements

What is the deadline for candidates to take the current School Counselor (152) Exam?

The last day for candidates to take the School Counselor (152) exam will be **September 5, 2021**. The last registration date will be **September 3, 2021** with score reporting through **September 10, 2021**.

How long may candidates use a passing score on the current School Counselor (152) exam for issuance of the School Counselor: EC-12 certificate?

The last day that a certificate may be recommend by the EPP using the School Counselor (152) exam results is **September 6, 2022**, exactly one year from the launch of the School Counselor (252) exam. Candidates must

communicate with their EPPs to determine all program requirements that must be completed prior to recommendation for certification.

Candidate Preparation Resources

What resources exist for candidates to prepare for the exam?

The TEA has produced, in partnership with Pearson, a publicly accessible preparation manual and an interactive practice test. The preparation manual is publicly available and includes:

- The examination framework
- Approaches to answering different question types
- Sample selected-response questions
- In-depth rationales for correct and incorrect responses
- A sample constructed response question
- Sample strong and weak constructed-responses and rationales
- A list of preparation resources

The interactive practice test provides candidates with the opportunity to engage with the exam experience.

When will the preparation manual for this exam be available for candidates to purchase?

The preparation manual for the redesigned School Counselor (252) is publicly available on the Texas Program Website. [Click here](#) for link to the preparation manual.

When will the interactive practice test be available for candidates to purchase?

Both the representative exam and the interactive practice test will be available for purchase on **September 28, 2021**. TEA and the testing vendor, Pearson, will provide communication as these materials become available to educator preparation programs and candidates.