

2023 | 2024

EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

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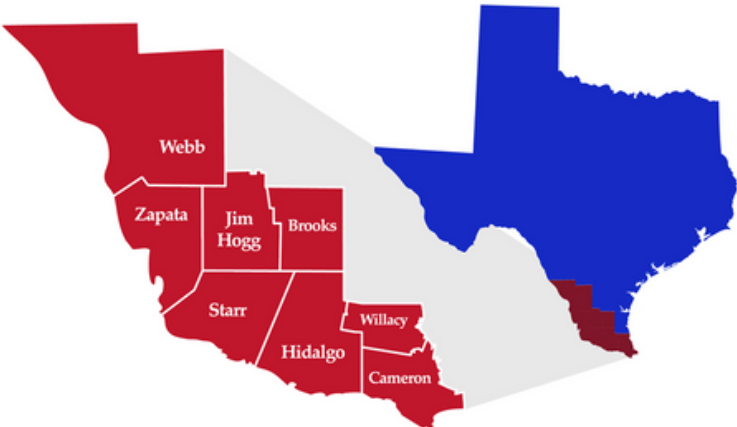
www.esc1.net



Region One Educator Service Center

The Region One Education Service Center is part of a state-wide system of 20 regional education service centers created in 1965 by the 59th Texas Legislature to assist school districts across the state. Located in South Texas on the United States/Mexico border, Region One ESC serves 38 school districts and 10 charter school systems in the eight county areas of Brooks County, Cameron County, Hidalgo County, Jim Hogg County, Starr County, Webb County, Willacy County, and Zapata County.

REGION ONE ESC



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Teacher and Principal Alternative Certification

Program Handbook

PROGRAM MISSION

The Region One ESC, Educator Preparation Programs is dedicated to developing candidates who demonstrate subject matter knowledge, proficient skill sets, and understand the attributes of learning and teaching.

PROGRAM VISION

Sustain a reputation of excellence as a certifying entity that optimizes a prospective pipeline of well-prepared teachers and administrators.

PROGRAM CORE VALUES

Commitment
Excellence
Integrity
Respect
Service

DIVISION OF LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

from our Director of Educator Preparation Programs

The Region One Education Service Center, Educator Preparation Programs (EPP), provides training and supports for those interested in achieving alternative certification as Texas teachers and school district administrators.

The value of our non-traditional programs relies on more than 50 years of partnerships with Region One area school systems.

We currently offer two pathways to certification, the Project P.a.C.E., Preparing and Certifying Educators for teachers and ILP3, Integrated Leadership Principal Preparation Program for principals.

Each program offers admission to eligible candidates by cohorts throughout the year. The delivery of our services are a combination of online and face-to-face coursework coupled with mentorship and coaching during field-based practices.

We welcome you to the Region One Education Service Center Educator Alternative Certification Program!





PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

from our Director of Educator Preparation Programs

Program requirements are based on adopted rules of the Texas Education Codes and Texas Administrative Codes for Educator Certification. The Region One ESC educator preparation programs are approved by the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) to establish procedures and practices to deliver educator preparation supports.

Our EPP requires specific criteria of all applicants seeking initial certification in any class of certificate prior to admission to the program. Teacher and principal candidates must review and accept current state and the Region One ESC EPP program requirements, policies, and procedures upon admission.

In accordance with TEA rule change, the publication of this handbook is subject to change.



EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

CRIMINAL HISTORY

TEC §22.0831

TEA conducts a national criminal history check on all applicants for certification, Texas Education Code. Prior to clinical teaching, internship, practicum, or employment as an educator, a criminal history background check is required on all candidates.

Candidates has the right to request a preliminary criminal history evaluation from TEA.

Candidates also have the opportunity to determine ineligibility of an individual who has been convicted of an offence for issuance of a certificate from TEA.

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*When educating
the minds of our
youth, we must
not forget to
educate their
hearts.*

- Dalai Lama

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Our program schedules provide our candidates with timelines for coursework, training, support, and field experiences. All program schedules are available via program websites and are subject to change.

Screening Criteria

Interested candidates shall:

- Submit an interest form
- Participate in a free information session
- Submit all official transcripts from accredited universities/colleges to:
 - projectpacestaff@esc1.net for teacher program
 - dhinojosa@esc1.net for principal program
- Demonstrate basic skills in reading, mathematics, written and oral communication
- Demonstrate the English Language Proficiency Skills

Teacher Program

- Submit statement of qualifications (SOQ) for Career and Technical Education
- Pass TxPACT or NoCTI exam (if required)

Principal Program

- Pass Watson-Glaser exam

Admission Criteria

Teacher Program Specific



- Admission essay
- Professional interview
- Minimum of a 2.5 GPA overall or of last 60 hours
- Minimum of 12 semester credit hours in subject specific content area or 15 hours for math and science
- Cannot have been previously employed as a teacher for 3 or more years on a permit, intern or probationary certificate

Principal Program Specific



- Written response scenario
- Professional interview
- Oral case study presentation
- Leadership video submission
- Minimum of 3.0 overall GPA
- Master's degree or bachelor's degree with master's degree program acceptance
- Two (2) years of teaching experience
- District or campus leadership experience
- Valid teacher SBEC certificate
- Copy of service record
- Two (2) reference letters from campus principal and other campus administrator



Out of Country Transcripts

Out-of-country transcripts require an evaluation into U.S. degree equivalency by a TEA approved credential [evaluation service](#).

Verify list of [approved IHEs](#) if bachelor's or master's degree was earned in a country outside of the U.S. or in U.S. territories.

Receive a minimum score on the [Test of English as Foreign Language internet-Based Test \(TOEFL iBT\)](#) of:

- 24 Speaking
- 22 Listening
- 22 Reading
- 21 Writing

Career and Technical Education Admissions

Not all Career and Technical Education (CTE) certificates require a degree, but all require specific trade licenses, registrations, or certifications, years of full-time wage earning experience within the preceding ten (10) years, and a statement of qualifications (SOQ) to ensure alignment toward the certification area being sought.

CTE certification that does not require a bachelor's degree may satisfy the English Language Proficiency skills requirement with an associate degree or high school diploma.

Additional Certification by Exam through Region One ESC

Educators who hold a current valid classroom teaching certificate and bachelor's degree may add health science and trade and industrial education with verified work experience and current licensure when required. In addition, teacher must complete a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ).



Military and Non-Military Candidates

Military service member or military veteran candidates may verify military service, training, or education toward the training, education, work experience, or related requirements for educator certification

requirements, provided that the military service, training, or education is directly related to the certificate being sought.

Candidates who are **not** military service members or veterans may substitute prior or ongoing service, training, or education, provided that the experience, education, or training that is not also counted as a part of the internship or clinical teaching requirements. Education shall be from an accredited IHE within the past five years and directly related to the certificate being sought.

CERTIFICATION AREAS

ALL LEVELS (EC-GRADE 12)

- Music
- Physical Education
- Principal as Instructional Leader
- Special Education
- Theatre Arts

EARLY CHILDHOOD-GRADE 6

- Core Subject w/ Science of Teaching Reading

GRADE 4-8

- Core Subject w/ Science of Teaching Reading
- English Language Arts/Reading w/ Science of Teaching Reading
- English Language Arts/Reading and Social Studies w/ Science of Teaching Reading
- Math
- Math and Science
- Science
- Social Studies

GRADE 6-12

- Dance
- Physical Science
- Reserve Officer Training Officer

GRADE 7-12

- Chemistry
- English Language Arts/Reading
- Math
- Math and Physics
- Science
- Social Studies

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Health Science
- Hospitality, Nutrition, and Food Sciences
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Marketing
- Trade and Industrial Education

SUPPLEMENTAL CERTIFICATES

- Bilingual Education - Spanish
- BTPLT - Spanish
- English as a Second Language (ESL)



TRANSFER CANDIDATE

Transfer candidates from another EPP requesting admissions approval will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Maximum number of clock hours for coursework, training, clinical teaching, internship, and practicum will be determined upon program transcript evaluation. If an applicant is seeking examination approval, candidate will be referred to initial EPP for exam approval and standard certification.

Candidates seeking transfer to another EPP must pay services rendered by the Region One ESC EPP program prior to release.

CONTINGENCY ADMISSION

A teacher applicant who is expected to complete requirements for obtaining a bachelor's at the end of the semester in which admission to the EPP program may be admitted on a contingency basis. A graduation confirmation letter from university/college will be required prior to admission.



DEFICIENCY ADMISSION

A principal applicant expected to obtain a master's degree at the end of the program and prior to applying for standard certificate may be admitted on a deficiency plan. An acceptance letter from a university master's program will be required for admission.



Teacher Program Principal Program

Program Exit/Withdrawal Policy

AS A CANDIDATE OF THE REGION ONE EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM (EPP), THE CANDIDATE SHALL:

- Be respectful to EPP program staff, school staff and other personnel through all channels of communication.
- Adhere to program policies and procedures as established by the EPP and guided by 19 TAC rule.
- Adhere to behaviors as identified in Texas Administrative Code (TAC) 247 Educators' Code of Ethics.
- Fully engage in coursework and training as established by the EPP and required by the Texas Education Agency for standard certification.
- Avoid disruption of the learning scope and sequence by following the program schedule.
- Complete and submit assignments and assessments on time as assigned.
- Engage in test practice series to meet "readiness standard" criteria on all competencies of practice exams prior to TExES exam release.
- Be successful in passing TExES exams within times established by the EPP.
- Successfully complete clinical teaching, residency, internship or practicum as required by the Texas Education Agency.
- Participate in self-tracking test preparation and practices with Certify Teacher, 240 Tutoring, or other.
- Successfully submit **PASL** (principal candidates) tasks no sooner than six (6) months from the initial date of admission.
- Upon EPP program approval, adhere to action/deficiency plan and extension timelines and fees.
- Complete all program requirements and receive standard certificate two (2) years from the date of initial program admission.
- Maintain scheduled payments for program services and program extension fees.
- Pay all program fees prior to issuing a standard certificate or transfer release to another educator preparation program (EPP).
- Failure to all meet conditions as specifically stated in program exit/withdraw policy may result in program initiated withdraw.
- Notify the EPP of voluntary resignation from EPP program, current educator position, or is asked to leave by the district.

Inactive Candidates

Candidates who have not completed program requirements within two (2) years from the date of admission into our EPP shall receive a withdrawal notification letter by email. If the candidate responds within five (5) calendar days expressing interest in completing program requirements, the candidate must seek approval from the program director to participate in an extension program. If the candidate is approved to participate in an extension program, the candidate shall receive an offer to accept or decline an individualized action plan. Program extension fees apply contingent upon the specific requirements the candidate may need to successfully complete the program. Extension program fees must be paid in full prior to the date the action plan is activated. Fees payable to program are non-refundable.

If an inactive candidate does not respond to the notification letter or declines the extension program offer, the EPP shall conclude the inactive candidate is no longer interested in completing certification and therefore, the EPP shall proceed with withdrawing candidate from program and report withdrawal to the Texas Education Agency. The withdrawn candidate may reapply to the EPP program at a future date.

SUPERVISED EDUCATOR ASSIGNMENT

Program Specific

CLINICAL TEACHING ASSIGNMENT

(Available for teacher program)

Is an unpaid supervised teacher assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA. Prior to clinical teaching, the teacher candidate must complete 30 clock-hours of field-based experiences and 150+ clock-hours of coursework/training and pass content and supplemental exams. This type of teacher assignment may be completed in 14 weeks of full days or 28 weeks of half days in the subject candidate is seeking certification.

**Resident Teacher Assignment information available in Appendix A of this handbook.*

INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENT

(Available for teacher and principal program)

Is a full year paid supervised educator assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA. Prior to a teacher internship, the candidate must complete 30 clock-hours of field-based experiences, 150+ clock-hours of coursework/training and pass content and supplemental exams.

A principal internship requires a candidate to complete specific coursework/training must pass TExES 268 exam to be eligible for an intern or probationary certificate.

PRACTICUM ASSIGNMENT

(Available for principal program)

Is an unpaid supervised principal assignment at a public school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) or other school approved by the TEA. Prior to the start of practicum, candidate must complete clock hours of coursework. During the full year practicum experience, a candidate must complete 200 clock-hours of educational activities and demonstrate proficiency of principal standards.



COOPERATING TEACHER OR MENTOR

A trained cooperating teacher or mentor is a certified educator who is assigned by our EPP and campus administrator to provide 30 clock hours of guidance, assistance, and support to the teacher candidate during the weeks of clinical teaching or internship in areas such as planning, classroom management, instruction, assessment, working with parents, obtaining materials, district policies; and who reports the teacher candidate's progress to the candidate's campus principal and field supervisor.

CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR OR SITE SUPERVISOR

A trained campus administrator (teacher program) or site supervisor (principal program) is a certified campus principal who is assigned by our EPP and campus or district administrator to provide guidance, assistance, and support to the candidate during internship; and who reports the candidate's progress to the candidate's field supervisor.

A site supervisor must conduct 2 formal observations during principal candidate practicum or internship.



FIELD SUPERVISOR

A trained field supervisor is a certified educator hired by the EPP to observe candidates, monitor their proficiency of educator standards, and provide constructive feedback to help candidates improve their effectiveness as entry-level teachers and principals. Program candidates require a specific number of formal observations. Candidates who demonstrate proficiency in each of the educator standards may be recommended for a standard certificate.



Educator Preparation Program

Applying for Certifications

Intern or Probationary Certificate



State Board for Educator Certification

The State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) was created by the Texas Legislature in 1995 to recognize public school educators as professionals and grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board oversees all aspects of the preparation, certification, and standards of conduct of public school educators.

A candidate must meet the degree, certificates and/or experience requirements in subject matter knowledge for issuance of a certificate to serve an internship as a classroom teacher or principal assignment. Intern certificates are limited to one 12-month period and probationary certificates are limited to two 12-month periods. Application fees are paid to TEA. Certificate conditions and testing requirements apply.

Standard Certificate



For educator certification (any questions related to educator certificates and renewals, TEAL account access, name changes, address updates), educator testing, educator preparation programs or fingerprinting questions please call (512) 936-8400.

Initial standard certificate shall require a candidate to meet degree, recommendation by EPP, passing scores on state exams, and CTE candidates also require licensure and experience. Application fees are paid to TEA. Certificate conditions and testing requirements apply.

ADHEREANCE STATEMENTS

EPP Staff and Consumer Responsibilities



TEA Standard Practices

by Director of Educator Preparation Programs

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

EDUCATOR CODE OF ETHICS

All EPP staff, field supervisors, and candidates shall read and sign the Educator's Code of Ethics document which states understanding and adherence statements. 19 TAC §228.50.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

We strive to provide direct assistance that may alleviate your concerns. We encourage you to connect with our specialists or staff members as a first step. If you feel others should be involved, protocols are established and should be followed. If you have a complaint against Region One's educator preparation program that you feel is not resolved, please follow the Region One ESC-EPP Complaint Process. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has a formal complaint process for candidates in educator preparation programs. You may submit a complaint to the Texas Education Agency by fax (512-475-3665), e-mail (complaintsmanagement@tea.texas.gov).

CANDIDATE RECORDS

Candidate records are retained for a period of five (5) years after candidate completes, withdraws from or is discharged or released from the EPP program.

ACCOUNTABILITY ANNUAL REPORTS

The most recent information about the Region One Educator Preparation Program data can be found at: [ASEP Annual Reports](#).

REGION ONE ESC

Your premier partner for your career needs!

EPP STAFF

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CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Project P.a.C.E., teacher alternative certification program accepts new candidates in September, November, February, and May.

The Integrated Leadership Principal Preparation Program - ILP3, principal alternative certification program accepts new candidates at the start of February and October.

Our recruitment processes are continuous for both programs throughout the year.

WE ARE THE DIVISION OF LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Division of Leadership and Community Impact contributes to Region One ESC's primary purpose of assisting school districts in improving student performance, assisting school districts in operating more efficiently and economically, and implementing initiatives assigned by the Texas Legislature or the Commissioner of Education.



EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Region One Education Service Center
1900 West Schunior
Edinburg, Texas 78541
956-984-6000

Acknowledgement Receipt of EPP Handbook

The EPP Handbook serves as a resource of important information about program policies and procedures, as well as, my roles and responsibilities as a candidate. I understand that I should consult with the Region One Educator Preparation Programs (EPP) staff regarding any questions not answered in this handbook.

I understand that the information described in this handbook is subject to change in accordance with 19 TAC and TEC code of the Texas Education Agency couple with the EPP program policies and that changes will be immediately communicated with me through written or verbal notice.

This receipt is to acknowledge that I have received a copy of the EPP Handbook and I understand that this handbook is a guideline and an aid to being an active candidate of the Region One ESC Educator Preparation Programs.

Furthermore, I agree that it is my responsibility to read, become familiar, and adhere to state rules and program policies as stated in this handbook.

Print Name

Date

Signature

Program Name