

STATUTORY AUTHORITY REFERENCE

SECTION: TEXAS CONSTITUTION ARTICLE XVI

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE (TEC)

TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE (TGC)

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE (TOC)

THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE 16. GENERAL PROVISIONS
SECTION 17

Sec. 17. SERVICE OF PUBLIC OFFICER PENDING QUALIFICATION OF SUCCESSOR.

- (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this section, all officers of this State shall continue to perform the duties of their offices until their successors shall be duly qualified.
- (b) Following the expiration of a term of an appointive office that is filled by appointment of the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and that is not an office for which the officer receives a salary, the period for which the officer shall continue to perform the duties of office under Subsection (a) of this section ends on the last day of the first regular session of the Legislature that begins after the expiration of the term.

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TEC, §21.003. CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.

- (a) A person may not be employed as a teacher, teacher intern or teacher trainee, librarian, educational aide, administrator, educational diagnostician, or school counselor by a school district unless the person holds an appropriate certificate or permit issued as provided by Subchapter B.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a person may not be employed by a school district as an audiologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, physician, nurse, school psychologist, associate school psychologist, licensed professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, social worker, or speech language pathologist unless the person is licensed by the state agency that licenses that profession and may perform specific services within those professions for a school district only if the person holds the appropriate credential from the appropriate state agency. As long as a person employed by a district before September 1, 2011, to perform marriage and family therapy, as defined by Section 502.002, Occupations Code, is employed by the same district, the person is not required to hold a license as a marriage and family therapist to perform marriage and family therapy with that district.
- (c) The commissioner may waive the requirement for certification of a superintendent if requested by a school district as provided by Section 7.056. A person who is not certified as a superintendent may not be employed by a school district as the superintendent before the person has received a waiver of certification from the commissioner. The commissioner may limit the waiver of certification in any manner the commissioner determines is appropriate. A person may be designated to act as a temporary or interim superintendent for a school district, but the district may not employ the person under a contract as superintendent unless the person has been certified or a waiver has been granted.

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TEC, §21.0031. FAILURE TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATION; CONTRACT VOID.

- (a) An employee's probationary, continuing, or term contract under this chapter is void if the employee:
 - (1) does not hold a valid certificate or permit issued by the State Board for Educator Certification;
 - (2) fails to fulfill the requirements necessary to renew or extend the employee's temporary, probationary, or emergency certificate or any other certificate or permit issued under Subchapter B; or
 - (3) fails to comply with any requirement under Subchapter C, Chapter [22](#), if the failure results in suspension or revocation of the employee's certificate under Section [22.0831](#)(f)(2).
- (b) If a school district has knowledge that an employee's contract is void under Subsection (a):
 - (1) the district may, except as provided by Subsection (b-1):
 - (A) terminate the employee;
 - (B) suspend the employee with or without pay; or
 - (C) retain the employee for the remainder of the school year on an at-will employment basis in a position other than a position required to be held by an employee under a contract under Section [21.002](#) at the employee's existing rate of pay or at a reduced rate; and
 - (2) the employee is not entitled to the minimum salary prescribed by Section [21.402](#).
- (b-1) A school district may not terminate or suspend under Subsection (b) an employee whose contract is void under Subsection (a)(1) or (2) because the employee failed to renew or extend the employee's certificate or permit if the employee:
 - (1) requests an extension from the State Board for Educator Certification to renew, extend, or otherwise validate the employee's certificate or permit; and
 - (2) not later than the 10th day after the date the contract is void, takes necessary measures to renew, extend, or otherwise validate the employee's certificate or permit, as determined by the State Board for Educator Certification.
- (c) A school district's decision under Subsection (b) is not subject to appeal under this chapter, and the notice and hearing requirements of this chapter do not apply to the decision.
- (d) This section does not affect the rights and remedies of a party in an at-will employment relationship.
- (e) This section does not apply to a certified teacher assigned to teach a subject for which the teacher is not certified.

- (f) For purposes of this section, a certificate or permit is not considered to have expired if:
- (1) the employee has completed the requirements for renewal of the certificate or permit;
 - (2) the employee submitted the request for renewal prior to the expiration date; and
 - (3) the date the certificate or permit would have expired is before the date the State Board for Educator Certification takes action to approve the renewal of the certificate or permit.

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TEC, §21.031. PURPOSE.

- (a) The State Board for Educator Certification is established to recognize public school educators as professionals and to grant educators the authority to govern the standards of their profession. The board shall regulate and oversee all aspects of the certification, continuing education, and standards of conduct of public school educators.

- (b) In proposing rules under this subchapter, the board shall ensure that all candidates for certification or renewal of certification demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the performance of the diverse student population of this state.

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TEC, §21.035. DELEGATION AUTHORITY; ADMINISTRATION BY AGENCY.

- (a) The board is permitted to make a written delegation of authority to the commissioner or the agency to informally dispose of a contested case involving educator certification.
- (b) The agency shall provide the board's administrative functions and services.

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TEC, §21.036. OFFICERS.

The board shall elect one of its members to serve as presiding officer for a term of two years. The presiding officer is entitled to vote on all matters before the board. The board may elect other officers from among its membership.

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TEC, §21.040. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD.

The board shall:

- (1) appoint the members of any advisory committee to the board;
- (2) for each class of educator certificate, appoint an advisory committee composed of members of that class to recommend standards for that class to the board;
- (3) provide to its members and employees, as often as necessary, information regarding their qualifications for office or employment under this chapter and their responsibilities under applicable laws relating to standards of conduct for state officers or employees; and
- (4) develop and implement policies that clearly define the respective responsibilities of the board and the board's staff.

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TEC, §21.041. RULES; FEES.

- (a) The board may adopt rules as necessary for its own procedures.
- (b) The board shall propose rules that:
 - (1) provide for the regulation of educators and the general administration of this subchapter in a manner consistent with this subchapter;
 - (2) specify the classes of educator certificates to be issued, including emergency certificates;
 - (3) specify the period for which each class of educator certificate is valid;
 - (4) specify the requirements for the issuance and renewal of an educator certificate;
 - (5) provide for the issuance of an educator certificate to a person who holds a similar certificate issued by another state or foreign country, subject to Section 21.052;
 - (6) provide for special or restricted certification of educators, including certification of instructors of American Sign Language;
 - (7) provide for disciplinary proceedings, including the suspension or revocation of an educator certificate, as provided by Chapter 2001, Government Code;
 - (8) provide for the adoption, amendment, and enforcement of an educator's code of ethics;
 - (9) provide for continuing education requirements; and
 - (10) provide for certification of persons performing appraisals under Subchapter H.
- (c) The board shall propose a rule adopting a fee for the issuance and maintenance of an educator certificate that, when combined with any fees imposed under Subsection (d), is adequate to cover the cost of administration of this subchapter.
- (d) The board may propose a rule adopting a fee for the approval or renewal of approval of an educator preparation program, or for the addition of a certificate or field of certification to the scope of a program's approval. A fee imposed under this subsection may not exceed the amount necessary, as determined by the board, to provide for the administrative cost of approving, renewing the approval of, and appropriately ensuring the accountability of educator preparation programs under this subchapter.

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TEC, §21.043. ACCESS TO PEIMS DATA.

- (a) The agency shall provide the board with access to data obtained under the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS).
- (b) The agency shall provide educator preparation programs with data based on information reported through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) that enables an educator preparation program to:
 - (1) assess the impact of the program; and
 - (2) revise the program as needed to improve the design and effectiveness of the program.
- (c) The agency in coordination with the board shall solicit input from educator preparation programs to determine the data to be provided to educator preparation programs.

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TEC, §21.044. EDUCATOR PREPARATION.

- (a) The board shall propose rules:
 - (1) specifying what each educator is expected to know and be able to do, particularly with regard to students with disabilities;
 - (2) establishing the training requirements a person must accomplish to obtain a certificate, enter an internship, or enter an induction-year program; and
 - (3) specifying the minimum academic qualifications required for a certificate.
- (a-1) Any training requirements for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) must require that the person demonstrate:
 - (1) basic knowledge of:
 - (A) each disability category under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.) and how each category can affect student learning and development; and
 - (B) conditions that may be considered a disability under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), and how a condition covered by that section can affect student learning and development;
 - (2) competence in the use of proactive instructional planning techniques that:
 - (A) provide flexibility in the ways:
 - (i) information is presented;
 - (ii) students respond or demonstrate knowledge and skills; and
 - (iii) students are engaged;
 - (B) reduce barriers in instruction;
 - (C) provide appropriate accommodations, supports, and challenges; and
 - (D) maintain high achievement expectations for all students, including students with disabilities and students of limited English proficiency; and
 - (3) competence in the use of evidence-based inclusive instructional practices, including:
 - (A) general and special education collaborative and co-teaching models and approaches;
 - (B) multitiered systems of support, including response to intervention strategies, classroom and school level data-based collaborative structures, and evidence-based strategies for intervention and progress monitoring systems in academic areas;

- (C) classroom management techniques using evidence-based behavioral intervention strategies and supports; and
 - (D) appropriate adaptation strategies, including accommodations, modifications, and instruction in the use of assistive technology for instruction.
- (b) The minimum academic qualifications for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) must require that the person receive, as part of the training required to obtain that certificate, instruction in detection and education of students with dyslexia.
- (c) The instruction under Subsection (b) must:
 - (1) be developed by a panel of experts in the diagnosis and treatment of dyslexia who are:
 - (A) employed by institutions of higher education; and
 - (B) approved by the board; and
 - (2) include information on:
 - (A) characteristics of dyslexia;
 - (B) identification of dyslexia; and
 - (C) effective, multisensory strategies for teaching students with dyslexia.
- (c-1) The minimum academic qualifications for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) must require that the person receive, as part of the training required to obtain that certificate, instruction regarding mental health, substance abuse, and youth suicide. The instruction required must:
 - (1) be provided through:
 - (A) a program selected from the list of recommended best practice-based programs and research-based practices established under Section [38.351](#); or
 - (B) a course offered by any accredited public or private postsecondary educational institution as part of a degree program; and
 - (2) include effective strategies, including de-escalation techniques and positive behavioral interventions and supports, for teaching and intervening with students with mental health conditions or who engage in substance abuse.
- (c-2) Any minimum academic qualifications for a certificate specified under Subsection (a) that require a person to possess a bachelor's degree must also require that the person receive, as part of the training required to obtain that certificate, instruction in digital learning, virtual learning, and virtual instruction, including a digital literacy evaluation followed by a prescribed digital learning curriculum. The instruction required must:
 - (1) be aligned with the International Society for Technology in Education's standards for teachers;
 - (2) provide effective, evidence-based strategies to determine a person's degree of digital

- literacy;
- (3) cover best practices in:
 - (A) assessing students receiving virtual instruction, based on academic progress; and
 - (B) developing a virtual learning curriculum; and
 - (4) include resources to address any deficiencies identified by the digital literacy evaluation.
- (d) In proposing rules under this section, the board shall specify that to obtain a certificate to teach an "applied STEM course," as that term is defined by Section [28.027](#), at a secondary school, a person must:
- (1) pass the certification test administered by the recognized national or international business and industry group that created the curriculum the applied STEM course is based on; and
 - (2) have at a minimum:
 - (A) an associate degree from an accredited institution of higher education; and
 - (B) three years of work experience in an occupation for which the applied STEM course is intended to prepare the student.
- (e) In proposing rules under this section for a person to obtain a certificate to teach a health science technology education course, the board shall specify that a person must have:
- (1) an associate degree or more advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
 - (2) current licensure, certification, or registration as a health professions practitioner issued by a nationally recognized accrediting agency for health professionals; and
 - (3) at least two years of wage earning experience utilizing the licensure requirement.
- (f) The board may not propose rules for a certificate to teach a health science technology education course that specify that a person must have a bachelor's degree or that establish any other credential or teaching experience requirements that exceed the requirements under Subsection (e).
- (f-1) Board rules addressing ongoing educator preparation program support for a candidate seeking certification in a certification class other than classroom teacher may not require that an educator preparation program conduct one or more formal observations of the candidate on the candidate's site in a face-to-face setting. The rules must permit each required formal observation to occur on the candidate's site or through use of electronic transmission or other video-based or technology-based method.
- (g) Each educator preparation program must provide information regarding:
- (1) the skills that educators are required to possess, the responsibilities that educators are required to accept, and the high expectations for all students, including students with disabilities, in this state;

- (2) the effect of supply and demand forces on the educator workforce in this state;
- (3) the performance over time of the educator preparation program;
- (4) the importance of building strong classroom management skills;
- (5) the framework in this state for teacher and principal evaluation, including the procedures followed in accordance with Subchapter H; and
- (6) appropriate relationships, boundaries, and communications between educators and students.

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TEC, §21.0441. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS .

- (a) Rules of the board proposed under this subchapter must provide that a person, other than a person seeking career and technology education certification, is not eligible for admission to an educator preparation program, including an alternative educator preparation program, unless the person:
 - (1) except as provided by Subsection (b), satisfies the following minimum grade point average requirements:
 - (A) an overall grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale or the equivalent on any course work previously attempted at a public or private institution of higher education; or
 - (B) a grade point average of at least 2.50 on a four-point scale or the equivalent for the last 60 semester credit hours attempted at a public or private institution of higher education; and
 - (2) if the person is seeking initial certification:
 - (A) has successfully completed at least:
 - (i) 15 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking certification, if the person is seeking certification to teach mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or
 - (ii) 12 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area in which the person is seeking certification, if the person is not seeking certification to teach mathematics or science at or above grade level seven; or
 - (B) has achieved a satisfactory level of performance on a content certification examination, which may be a content certification examination administered by a vendor approved by the commissioner for purposes of administering such an examination for the year for which the person is applying for admission to the program.
- (b) The board's rules must permit an educator preparation program to admit in extraordinary circumstances a person who fails to satisfy a grade point average requirement prescribed by Subsection (a)(1)(A) or (B), provided that:

- (1) not more than 10 percent of the total number of persons admitted to the program in a year fail to satisfy the requirement under Subsection (a)(1)(A) or (B);
 - (2) each person admitted as described by this subsection performs, before admission, at a satisfactory level on an appropriate subject matter examination for each subject in which the person seeks certification; and
 - (3) for each person admitted as described by this subsection, the director of the program determines and certifies, based on documentation provided by the person, that the person's work, business, or career experience demonstrates achievement comparable to the academic achievement represented by the grade point average requirement.
- (c) The overall grade point average of each incoming class admitted by an educator preparation program, including an alternative educator preparation program, may not be less than 3.00 on a four-point scale or the equivalent or a higher overall grade point average prescribed by the board. In computing the overall grade point average of an incoming class for purposes of this subsection, a program may:
- (1) include the grade point average of each person in the incoming class based on all course work previously attempted by the person at a public or private institution of higher education; or
 - (2) include the grade point average of each person in the incoming class based only on the last 60 semester credit hours attempted by the person at a public or private institution of higher education.
- (d) A person seeking career and technology education certification is not included in determining the overall grade point average of an incoming class under Subsection (c).

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**TEC, §21.0442. EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR PROBATIONARY AND
STANDARD TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE TRAINING
CERTIFICATES.**

- (a) The board shall propose rules under this subchapter to create an abbreviated educator preparation program for a person seeking certification in trade and industrial workforce training.
- (b) A person is eligible for admission to an educator preparation program created under this section only if the person:
 - (1) has been issued a high school diploma or a postsecondary credential, certificate, or degree;
 - (2) has seven years of full-time wage-earning experience within the preceding 10 years in an approved occupation for which instruction is offered;
 - (3) holds with respect to that occupation a current license, certificate, or registration, as applicable, issued by a nationally recognized accrediting agency based on a recognized test or measurement; and
 - (4) within the period described by Subdivision (2), has not been the subject of a complaint filed with a licensing entity or other agency that regulates the occupation of the person, other than a complaint that was determined baseless or unfounded by that entity or agency.
- (c) In proposing rules for an educator preparation program under this section, the board shall ensure that the program requires at least 80 hours of classroom instruction in:
 - (1) a specific pedagogy;
 - (2) creating lesson plans;
 - (3) creating student assessment instruments;
 - (4) classroom management; and
 - (5) relevant federal and state education laws.

Text of section effective on June 15, 2017, but only if a specific appropriation is provided as described by Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1077 (H.B. [3349](#)), Sec. 3, which states: This Act takes effect only if a specific appropriation for the implementation of the Act is provided in a general appropriations act of the 85th Legislature.

Added by Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1077 (H.B. [3349](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 15, 2017.

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TEC, §21.0443. EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL AND RENEWAL.

- (a) The board shall propose rules to establish standards to govern the approval or renewal of approval of:
 - (1) educator preparation programs; and
 - (2) certification fields authorized to be offered by an educator preparation program.
- (b) To be eligible for approval or renewal of approval, an educator preparation program must:
 - (1) incorporate proactive instructional planning techniques throughout course work and across content areas using a framework that:
 - (A) provides flexibility in the ways:
 - (i) information is presented;
 - (ii) students respond or demonstrate knowledge and skills; and
 - (iii) students are engaged;
 - (B) reduces barriers in instruction;
 - (C) provides appropriate accommodations, supports, and challenges; and
 - (D) maintains high achievement expectations for all students, including students with disabilities and students of limited English proficiency;
 - (2) integrate inclusive practices for all students, including students with disabilities, and evidence-based instruction and intervention strategies throughout course work, clinical experience, and student teaching;
 - (3) adequately prepare candidates for educator certification; and
 - (4) meet the standards and requirements of the board.
- (c) The board shall require that each educator preparation program be reviewed for renewal of approval at least every five years. The board shall adopt an evaluation process to be used in reviewing an educator preparation program for renewal of approval.

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 931 (H.B. [2205](#)), Sec. 5, eff. September 1, 2015.

Amended by:

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 215 (H.B. [159](#)), Sec. 3, eff. September 1, 2021.

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TEC, §21.045. ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

- a) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish standards to govern the continuing accountability of all educator preparation programs based on the following information that is disaggregated with respect to race, sex, and ethnicity:
- (1) results of the certification examinations prescribed under Section [21.048\(a\)](#);
 - (2) performance based on the appraisal system for beginning teachers adopted by the board;
 - (3) achievement, including improvement in achievement, of all students, including students with disabilities, taught by beginning teachers for the first three years following certification, to the extent practicable;
 - (4) compliance with board requirements regarding the frequency, duration, and quality of structural guidance and ongoing support provided by field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship; and
 - (5) results from a teacher satisfaction survey, developed by the board with stakeholder input, of new teachers performed at the end of the teacher's first year of teaching.
- (b) Each educator preparation program shall submit data elements as required by the board for an annual performance report to ensure access and equity. At a minimum, the annual report must contain:
- (1) the performance data from Subsection (a), other than the data required for purposes of Subsection (a)(3);
 - (2) data related to the program's compliance with requirements for field supervision of candidates during their clinical teaching and internship experiences;
 - (3) the following information, disaggregated by race, sex, and ethnicity:
 - (A) the number of candidates who apply;
 - (B) the number of candidates admitted;
 - (C) the number of candidates retained;
 - (D) the number of candidates completing the program;

- (E) the number of candidates employed as beginning teachers under standard teaching certificates by not later than the first anniversary of completing the program;
 - (F) the amount of time required by candidates employed as beginning teachers under probationary teaching certificates to be issued standard teaching certificates;
 - (G) the number of candidates retained in the profession; and
 - (H) any other information required by federal law;
- (4) the ratio of field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship; and
 - (5) any other information necessary to enable the board to assess the effectiveness of the program on the basis of teacher retention and success criteria adopted by the board.
- (c) The board shall propose rules necessary to establish performance standards for the Accountability System for Educator Preparation for accrediting educator preparation programs. At a minimum, performance standards must be based on Subsection (a).
 - (d) To assist an educator preparation program in improving the design and effectiveness of the program in preparing educators for the classroom, the agency shall provide to each program data that is compiled and analyzed by the agency based on information reported through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) relating to the program.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 723 (S.B. [174](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 19, 2009.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 931 (H.B. [2205](#)), Sec. 6, eff. September 1, 2015.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 757 (S.B. [1839](#)), Sec. 4, eff. June 12, 2017.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 215 (H.B. [159](#)), Sec. 4, eff. September 1, 2021.

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TEC, §21.0451. SANCTIONS UNDER ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

- (a) The board shall propose rules necessary for the sanction of educator preparation programs that do not meet accountability standards or comply with state law or rules and shall at least annually review the accreditation status of each educator preparation program. The rules:
- (1) shall provide for the assignment of the following accreditation statuses:
 - (A) not rated;
 - (B) accredited;
 - (C) accredited-warned;
 - (D) accredited-probation; and
 - (E) not accredited-revoked;
 - (2) may provide for the agency to take any necessary action, including one or more of the following actions:
 - (A) requiring the program to obtain technical assistance approved by the agency or board;
 - (B) requiring the program to obtain professional services under contract with another person;
 - (C) appointing a monitor to participate in and report to the board on the activities of the program; and
 - (D) if a program has been rated as accredited-probation under the Accountability System for Educator Preparation for a period of at least one year, revoking the approval of the program and ordering the program to be closed, provided that the board or agency has provided the opportunity for a contested case hearing;
 - (3) shall provide for the agency to revoke the approval of the program and order the program to be closed if the program has been rated as accredited-probation under the Accountability System for Educator Preparation for three consecutive years, provided that the board or agency has provided the opportunity for a contested case hearing; and
 - (4) shall provide the board procedure for changing the accreditation status of a program that:

- (A) does not meet the accreditation standards established under Section [21.045\(a\)](#); or
 - (B) violates a board or agency regulation.
- (b) Any action authorized or required to be taken against an educator preparation program under Subsection (a) may also be taken with regard to a particular field of certification authorized to be offered by an educator preparation program.
- (c) A revocation must be effective for a period of at least two years. After two years, the program may seek renewed approval to prepare educators for state certification.
- (d) The costs of technical assistance required under Subsection (a)(2)(A) or the costs associated with the appointment of a monitor under Subsection (a)(2)(C) shall be paid by the educator preparation program.

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TEC, §21.4514. CONTINUING EDUCATION AND TRAINING CLEARINGHOUSE; ADVISORY GROUP.

- (a) In this section:
 - (1) "Board" means the State Board for Educator Certification.
 - (2) "Clearinghouse advisory group" means the clearinghouse advisory group established under Subsection (d).
- (b) The board shall publish a comprehensive clearinghouse of information regarding continuing education and training requirements for:
 - (1) educators; and
 - (2) other school personnel.
- (c) The clearinghouse must:
 - (1) include best practices and industry recommendations for the frequency for training of educators and other school personnel; and
 - (2) be published in consultation with the clearinghouse advisory group.
- (d) The board shall establish a clearinghouse advisory group consisting of educators, including classroom teachers, and representatives of organizations that represent educators to review and provide input regarding the best practices and industry recommendations included in the clearinghouse. In publishing the clearinghouse, the board shall ensure the clearinghouse reflects input provided by the clearinghouse advisory group.
- (e) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year, the clearinghouse advisory group shall complete a review of the clearinghouse and submit a report to the legislature of the group's recommendations regarding whether any required continuing education or training may be reduced, eliminated, or consolidated with other existing continuing education or training.

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TEC, §21.0452. CONSUMER INFORMATION REGARDING EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

- (a) To assist persons interested in obtaining teaching certification in selecting an educator preparation program and assist school districts in making staffing decisions, the board shall make information regarding educator programs in this state available to the public through the board's Internet website.
- (b) The board shall make available at least the following information regarding each educator preparation program:
 - (1) the information specified in Sections [21.045](#)(a) and (b);
 - (2) in addition to any other appropriate information indicating the quality of persons admitted to the program, the average academic qualifications possessed by persons admitted to the program, including:
 - (A) average overall grade point average and average grade point average in specific subject areas; and
 - (B) average scores on the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), the American College Test (ACT), or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), as applicable;
 - (3) the degree to which persons who complete the program are successful in obtaining teaching positions;
 - (4) the extent to which the program prepares teachers, including general education teachers and special education teachers, to effectively teach:
 - (A) students with disabilities; and
 - (B) emergent bilingual students, as defined by Section [29.052](#);
 - (5) the activities offered by the program that are designed to prepare teachers to:
 - (A) integrate technology effectively into curricula and instruction, including activities consistent with the principles of universal design for learning; and
 - (B) use technology effectively to collect, manage, and analyze data to improve teaching and learning for the purpose of increasing student academic achievement;
 - (6) for each semester, the average ratio of field supervisors to candidates completing student teaching, clinical teaching, or an internship in an educator preparation program;
 - (7) the perseverance of beginning teachers in the profession, based on information reported through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) providing the

- number of beginning teachers employed as classroom teachers for at least three years after certification in comparison to similar programs;
- (8) the results of exit surveys given to program participants on completion of the program that involve evaluation of the program's effectiveness in preparing participants to succeed in the classroom;
 - (9) the results of surveys given to school principals that involve evaluation of the program's effectiveness in preparing participants to succeed in the classroom, based on experience with employed program participants; and
 - (10) the results of teacher satisfaction surveys developed under Section [21.045](#) and given to program participants at the end of the first year of teaching.
- (c) For purposes of Subsection (b)(9), the board shall require an educator preparation program to distribute an exit survey that a program participant must complete before the participant is eligible to receive a certificate under this subchapter.
 - (d) For purposes of Subsections (b)(9) and (10), the board shall develop surveys for distribution to program participants and school principals.
 - (e) The board may develop procedures under which each educator preparation program receives a designation or ranking based on the information required to be made available under Subsection (b). If the board develops procedures under this subsection, the designation or ranking received by each program must be included in the information made available under this section.
 - (f) In addition to other information required to be made available under this section, the board shall provide information identifying employment opportunities for teachers in the various regions of this state. The board shall specifically identify each region of this state in which a shortage of qualified teachers exists.
 - (g) The board may require any person to provide information to the board for purposes of this section.

Added by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 723 (S.B. [174](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 19, 2009.

Amended by:

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 931 (H.B. [2205](#)), Sec. 8, eff. September 1, 2015.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 573 (S.B. [241](#)), Sec. 1.01, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 597 (S.B. [668](#)), Sec. 1.02, eff. June 10, 2019.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 973 (S.B. [2066](#)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2021.

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TEC, §21.0454. RISK FACTORS FOR EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS; RISK-ASSESSMENT MODEL.

- a) The board shall propose rules necessary to develop a set of risk factors to use in assessing the overall risk level of each educator preparation program. The set of risk factors must include:
 - (1) a history of the program's compliance with state law and board rules, standards, and procedures, with consideration given to:
 - (A) the seriousness of any violation of a rule, standard or procedure;
 - (B) whether the violation resulted in an action being taken against the program;
 - (C) whether the violation was promptly remedied by the program;
 - (D) the number of alleged violations; and
 - (E) any other matter considered to be appropriate in evaluating the program's compliance history; and
 - (2) whether the program meets the accountability standards under Section [21.045](#).
- (b) The set of risk factors developed by the board may include whether an educator preparation
- (c) The board shall use the set of risk factors to guide the agency in conducting monitoring, inspections, and compliance audits of educator preparation programs, including evaluations associated with renewals under Section [21.0443](#).

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TEC, §21.046. QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION AS SUPERINTENDENT OR PRINCIPAL.

- (a) The qualifications for superintendent must permit a candidate for certification to substitute management training or experience for part of the educational experience.
- (b) The qualifications for certification as a principal must be sufficiently flexible so that an outstanding teacher may qualify by substituting approved experience and professional training for part of the educational requirements. Supervised and approved on-the-job experience in addition to required internship shall be accepted in lieu of classroom hours. The qualifications must emphasize:
 - (1) instructional leadership, including the ability to create an inclusive school environment and to foster parent involvement;
 - (2) administration, supervision, and communication skills;
 - (3) curriculum and instruction management, including curriculum and instruction management for students with disabilities;
 - (4) performance evaluation;
 - (5) organization; and
 - (6) fiscal management.
- (c) Because an effective principal is essential to school improvement, the board shall ensure that:
 - (1) each candidate for certification as a principal is of the highest caliber; and
 - (2) multi-level screening processes, validated comprehensive assessment programs, and flexible internships with successful mentors exist to determine whether a candidate for certification as a principal possesses the essential knowledge, skills, and leadership capabilities necessary for success.
- (d) In creating the qualifications for certification as a principal, the board shall consider the knowledge, skills, and proficiencies for principals as developed by relevant national organizations and the State Board of Education.
- (e) For purposes of satisfying eligibility requirements for certification as a principal, a teacher who is certified under Section [21.0487](#):
 - (1) is considered to hold a classroom teaching certificate; and
 - (2) may apply as creditable years of teaching experience as a classroom teacher any period during which the teacher was employed by a school district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor before or after the teacher was certified under Section [21.0487](#).

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1194 (S.B. [1309](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 19, 2015.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 215 (H.B. [159](#)), Sec. 6, eff. September 1, 2021.

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TEC, §21.048. CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS.

- (a) The board shall propose rules prescribing comprehensive examinations for each class of certificate issued by the board. The commissioner shall determine the satisfactory level of performance required for each certification examination. For the issuance of a generalist certificate, the commissioner shall require a satisfactory level of examination performance in each core subject covered by the examination.
- (a-1) The board may not require that more than 45 days elapse before a person may retake an examination. A person may not retake an examination more than four times, unless the board waives the limitation for good cause as prescribed by the board.
- (a-2) The board shall adopt rules that provide that in order to teach any grade level from prekindergarten through grade six a person must demonstrate proficiency in the science of teaching reading on a certification examination for each class of certificate issued by the board after January 1, 2021.
- (b) The board may not administer a written examination to determine the competence or level of performance of an educator who has a hearing impairment unless the examination has been field tested to determine its appropriateness, reliability, and validity as applied to, and minimum acceptable performance scores for, persons with hearing impairments.
- (c) An educator who has a hearing impairment is exempt from taking a written examination for a period ending on the first anniversary of the date on which the board determines, on the basis of appropriate field tests, that the examination complies with the standards specified in Subsection (b). On application to the board, the board shall issue a temporary exemption certificate to a person entitled to an exemption under this subsection.
- (c-1) The results of an examination administered under this section are confidential and are not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, unless the disclosure is regarding notification to a parent of the assignment of an uncertified teacher to a classroom as required by Section 21.057.
- (d) In this section:

- (1) "Hearing impairment" means a hearing impairment so severe that the person cannot process linguistic information with or without amplification.
- (2) "Reliability" means the extent to which an experiment, test, or measuring procedure yields the same results on repeated trials.
- (3) "Validity" means being:
 - (A) well-grounded or justifiable;
 - (B) relevant and meaningful;
 - (C) correctly derived from premises or inferences; and
 - (D) supported by objective truth or generally accepted authority.

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**TEC, §21.0487. JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS TEACHER
CERTIFICATION.**

- (a) The board shall establish a standard Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps teaching certificate to provide Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instruction.
- (b) To be eligible for a certificate under this section, a person must:
 - (1) hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education that is, and at the time the person received the degree was, accredited or otherwise approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;
 - (2) satisfy the eligibility and testing requirements for certification as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor established by the branch of service in which the person served; and
 - (3) complete an approved educator preparation program.
- (c) The board shall propose rules to:
 - (1) approve educator preparation programs to prepare a person as a teacher for certification under this section; and
 - (2) establish requirements under which:
 - (A) a person's training and experience acquired during the person's military service serves as proof of the person's demonstration of subject matter knowledge if that training and experience is verified by the branch of service in which the person served; and
 - (B) a person's employment by a school district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor before the person was enrolled in an educator preparation program or while the person is enrolled in an educator preparation program is applied to satisfy any student teaching, internship, or field-based experience program requirement.
- (d) A person is not required to hold a certificate established under this section to be employed by a school district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor.

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TEC, §21.0489. EARLY CHILDHOOD CERTIFICATION.

- (a) To ensure that there are teachers with special training in early childhood education focusing on prekindergarten through grade three, the board shall establish an early childhood certificate.
- (b) A person is not required to hold a certificate established under this section to be employed by a school district to provide instruction in prekindergarten through grade three.
- (c) To be eligible for a certificate established under this section, a person must:
 - (1) either:
 - (A) satisfactorily complete the course work for that certificate in an educator preparation program, including a knowledge-based and skills-based course of instruction on early childhood education that includes:
 - (i) teaching methods for:
 - (a) using small group instructional formats that focus on building social, emotional, and academic skills;
 - (b) navigating multiple content areas; and
 - (c) managing a classroom environment in which small groups of students are working on different tasks; and
 - (ii) strategies for teaching fundamental academic skills, including reading, writing, and numeracy; or
 - (B) hold an early childhood through grade six certificate issued under this subchapter and satisfactorily complete a course of instruction described by Paragraph (A);
 - (2) perform satisfactorily on an early childhood certificate examination prescribed by the board; and
 - (3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the board.
- (d) The criteria for the course of instruction described by Subsection (c)(1)(A) shall be developed by the board in consultation with faculty members who provide instruction at institutions of higher education in educator preparation programs for an early childhood through grade six certificate.

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TEC, §21.04891. BILINGUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATION.

- (a) In this section, "limited English proficiency" has the meaning assigned by Section 29.052.
- (b) To ensure that there are teachers with special training in providing instruction to students of limited English proficiency with disabilities, the board shall establish a bilingual special education certificate.
- (c) To be eligible for a certificate established under this section, a person must:
 - (1) satisfactorily complete the coursework for that certificate in an educator preparation program, including a skills-based course of instruction on providing instruction to students of limited English proficiency with disabilities, which must include instruction on:
 - (A) the foundations of bilingual, multicultural, and second language special education;
 - (B) providing individualized education programs for students of limited English proficiency with disabilities;
 - (C) providing assessment of students of limited English proficiency with and without disabilities;
 - (D) developing teaching methods to recognize the intellectual, developmental, and emotional needs of students in dual language and transitional bilingual education settings;
 - (E) teaching fundamental academic skills, including reading, writing, and mathematics, to students of limited English proficiency; and
 - (F) creating partnerships with families and school professionals;
 - (2) perform satisfactorily on a bilingual special education certificate examination prescribed by the board; and
 - (3) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the board.

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TEC, §21.049. ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION.

- (a) To provide a continuing additional source of qualified educators, the board shall propose rules providing for educator certification programs as an alternative to traditional educator preparation programs. The rules may not provide that a person may be certified under this section only if there is a demonstrated shortage of educators in a school district or subject area.
- (b) The board may not require a person employed as a teacher in an alternative education program under Section 37.008 or a juvenile justice alternative education program under Section 37.011 for at least three years to complete an alternative educator certification program adopted under this section before taking the appropriate certification examination.

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TEC, §21.0491. PROBATIONARY AND STANDARD TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL WORKFORCE TRAINING CERTIFICATES.

- (a) To provide a continuing additional source of teachers to provide workforce training, the board shall establish a probationary trade and industrial workforce training certificate and a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate that may be obtained through an abbreviated educator preparation program under Section [21.0442](#).
- (b) To be eligible for a probationary certificate under this section, a person must:
 - (1) satisfactorily complete the course work for that certificate in an educator preparation program under Section [21.0442](#); and
 - (2) satisfy any other requirements prescribed by the board.
- (c) To be eligible for a standard certificate under this section, a person must
 - (1) hold a probationary certificate issued under this section;
 - (2) be employed by:
 - (A) a public or private primary or secondary school; or
 - (B) an institution of higher education or an independent or private institution of higher education as those terms are defined by Section [61.003](#); and
 - (3) perform satisfactorily on a standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate examination prescribed by the board
- (d) The limitation imposed by Section [21.048\(a-1\)](#) on the number of administrations of an examination does not apply to the administration of the standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate examination prescribed by the board.
- (e) Notwithstanding any other law, the board may administer the standard trade and industrial workforce training certificate examination to a person who satisfies the requirements of Subsections (c)(1) and (2).
- (f) The board shall propose rules to:
 - (1) specify the term of a probationary certificate and a standard certificate issued under this section; and
 - (2) be establish the requirements for renewal of a standard certificate.

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TEC, §21.050. ACADEMIC DEGREE REQUIRED FOR TEACHING CERTIFICATE; FIELD-BASED EXPERIENCE OR INTERNSHIP.

- (a) A person who applies for a teaching certificate for which board rules require a bachelor's degree must possess a bachelor's degree received with an academic major or interdisciplinary academic major, including reading, that is related to the curriculum as prescribed under Subchapter A, Chapter 28.
- (b) The board shall provide for a minimum number of semester credit hours of field-based experience or internship to be included in the credit hours needed for certification. The board may propose rules requiring additional credit hours for certification in bilingual education, English as a second language, early childhood education, or special education.
- (c) A person 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 Section 54.363 may not be required to participate in any field experience or internship consisting of student teaching to receive a teaching certificate.

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TEC, §21.054. CONTINUING EDUCATION.

- (a) The board shall propose rules establishing a process for identifying continuing education courses and programs that fulfill educators' continuing education requirements, including opportunities for educators to receive micro-credentials in fields of study related to the educator's certification class as provided by Subsection (i).
- (a-1) Continuing education requirements for educators must include training regarding educating students with disabilities.
- (b) Continuing education requirements for an educator who teaches students with dyslexia must include training regarding new research and practices in educating students with dyslexia.
- (c) The training required under Subsection (b) may be offered in an online course.

Text of subsection as amended by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1045 (S.B. [1267](#)), Sec. 3

- (d) Continuing education requirements for a classroom teacher must provide that not more than 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) collecting and analyzing information that will improve effectiveness in the classroom;
 - (2) recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
 - (3) digital learning, digital teaching, and integrating technology into classroom instruction;
 - (4) educating diverse student populations, including:
 - (A) students who are educationally disadvantaged; and
 - (B) students at risk of dropping out of school; and
 - (5) understanding appropriate relationships, boundaries, and communications between educators and students.

Text of subsection as amended by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 973 (S.B. [2066](#)), Sec. 2

- (d) Continuing education requirements for a classroom teacher must provide that at least 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) collecting and analyzing information that will improve effectiveness in the classroom;
 - (2) recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
 - (3) digital learning, digital teaching, and integrating technology into classroom instruction;
 - (4) educating diverse student populations, including:

- Subchapter (A) students who are eligible to participate in special education programs under [A](#), Chapter [29](#);
- 504, (B) students who are eligible to receive educational services required under Section Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794);
- (C) students with mental health conditions or who engage in substance abuse;
- (D) students with intellectual or developmental disabilities;
- (E) students who are educationally disadvantaged;
- (F) emergent bilingual students; and
- (G) students at risk of dropping out of school;
- (5) understanding appropriate relationships, boundaries, and communications between educators and students; and
- (6) how mental health conditions, including grief and trauma, affect student learning and behavior and how evidence-based, grief-informed, and trauma-informed strategies support the academic success of students affected by grief and trauma.
- (d-1) The instruction required under Subsection (d) may include two or more listed topics together.
- (e) Continuing education requirements for a principal must provide that not more than 25 percent of the training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) effective and efficient management, including:
 - (A) collecting and analyzing information;
 - (B) making decisions and managing time; and
 - (C) supervising student discipline and managing behavior;
 - (2) recognizing early warning indicators that a student may be at risk of dropping out of school;
 - (3) digital learning, digital teaching, and integrating technology into campus curriculum and instruction;
 - (4) effective implementation of a comprehensive school counseling program under Section [33.005](#);
 - (5) mental health programs addressing a mental health condition;
 - (6) educating diverse student populations, including:
 - (A) students who are educationally disadvantaged;
 - (B) emergent bilingual students; and
 - (C) students at risk of dropping out of school; and
 - (7) preventing, recognizing, and reporting any sexual conduct between an educator and student that is prohibited under Section [21.12](#), Penal Code, or for which reporting is required under Section [21.006](#) of this code.

- (f) Continuing education requirements for a counselor must provide that not more than 25 percent of training required every five years include instruction regarding:
 - (1) assisting students in developing high school graduation plans;
 - (2) implementing dropout prevention strategies;
 - (3) informing students concerning:
 - (A) college admissions, including college financial aid resources and application procedures; and
 - (B) career opportunities;
 - (4) counseling students concerning mental health conditions and substance abuse, including through the use of grief-informed and trauma-informed interventions and crisis management and suicide prevention strategies; and
 - (5) effective implementation of a comprehensive school counseling program under Section [33.005](#).
- (g) The board shall adopt rules that allow an educator to fulfill continuing education requirements by participating in an evidence-based mental health first aid training program or an evidence-based grief-informed and trauma-informed care program. The rules adopted under this subsection must allow an educator to complete a program described by this subsection and receive credit toward continuing education requirements for twice the number of hours of instruction provided under that program, not to exceed 16 hours. The program must be offered through a classroom instruction format that requires in-person attendance.
- (h) Continuing education requirements for a superintendent must include at least 2-1/2 hours of training every five years on identifying and reporting potential victims of sexual abuse, human trafficking, and other maltreatment of children. For purposes of this subsection, "other maltreatment" has the meaning assigned by Section [42.002](#), Human Resources Code.
- (i) The board shall propose rules establishing a program to issue micro-credentials in fields of study related to an educator's certification class. The agency shall approve continuing education providers to offer micro-credential courses. A micro-credential received by an educator shall be recorded on the agency's Educator Certification Online System (ECOS) and included as part of the educator's public certification records.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 675 (S.B. [143](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 17, 2005.

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 596 (H.B. [200](#)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2009.

Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 895 (H.B. [3](#)), Sec. 67(a), eff. June 19, 2009.

Acts 2011, 82nd Leg., R.S., Ch. 635 (S.B. [866](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 17, 2011.

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 638 (H.B. [642](#)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2013.

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1306 (H.B. [3793](#)), Sec. 1, eff. September 1, 2013.

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1236 (S.B. [1296](#)), Sec. 21.001(9), eff. September 1, 2015.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 178 (S.B. [7](#)), Sec. 9, eff. September 1, 2017.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 522 (S.B. [179](#)), Sec. 8, eff. September 1, 2017.

Acts 2017, 85th Leg., R.S., Ch. 757 (S.B. [1839](#)), Sec. 8, eff. June 12, 2017.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 214 (H.B. [403](#)), Sec. 2, eff. September 1, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 352 (H.B. [18](#)), Sec. 1.04, eff. December 1, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 464 (S.B. [11](#)), Sec. 4, eff. June 6, 2019.

Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1123 (H.B. [2424](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2019.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 973 (S.B. [2066](#)), Sec. 2, eff. September 1, 2021.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1045 (S.B. [1267](#)), Sec. 3, eff. June 18, 2021.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1045 (S.B. [1267](#)), Sec. 24(1), eff. June 18, 2021.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1045 (S.B. [1267](#)), Sec. 24(2), eff. June 18, 2021.

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**TEC, §21.0541. CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT FOR INSTRUCTION RELATED TO
USE OF AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR.**

The board shall adopt rules allowing an educator to receive credit towards the educator's continuing education requirements for completion of an instructional course on the use of an automated external defibrillator that meets any guidelines for automated external defibrillator training approved by the board.

Added by Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1143 (S.B. [382](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 19, 2015.

Amended by:

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 545 (S.B. [199](#)), Sec. 3, eff. September 1, 2021.

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TEC, §21.0543. CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT FOR INSTRUCTION RELATED TO DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY.

The board shall propose rules allowing an educator to receive credit toward the educator's continuing education requirements for completion of education courses that:

- (1) use technology to increase the educator's digital literacy; and
- (2) assist the educator in the use of digital technology in learning activities that improve teaching, assessment, and instructional practices.

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TEC, §21.061. REVIEW AND UPDATING OF EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAMS.

The board shall, after consulting with appropriate higher education faculty and public school teachers and administrators and soliciting advice from other interested persons with relevant knowledge and experience, develop and carry out a process for reviewing and, as necessary, updating standards and requirements for educator preparation programs.

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SUBCHAPTER B. CERTIFICATION OF EDUCATORS

TEC, §21.064. LEGACY MASTER TEACHER CERTIFICATIONS.

- (a) The board shall recognize a master teacher certificate issued under former Section 21.0481, 21.0482, 21.0483, or 21.0484 until the certificate expires. The board shall note a designation of "legacy" on the certificate.
- (b) A master teacher certificate described by Subsection (a) is not eligible for funding under the teacher incentive allotment under Section [48.112](#).

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE
TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION
SUBTITLE D. EDUCATORS AND SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS
CHAPTER 22. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS
SUBCHAPTER C. CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS

**TEC, §22.082. ACCESS TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS BY STATE BOARD FOR
EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION.**

The State Board for Educator Certification shall subscribe to the criminal history clearinghouse as provided by Section [411.0845](#), Government Code, and may obtain from any law enforcement or criminal justice agency all criminal history record information and all records contained in any closed criminal investigation file that relate to a specific applicant for or holder of a certificate issued under Subchapter B, Chapter [21](#).

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE
TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION
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CHAPTER 22. SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS
SUBCHAPTER C. CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS

TEC, §22.0831. NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION REVIEW OF CERTIFIED EDUCATORS .

- (a) In this section, "board" means the State Board for Educator Certification.
- (b) This section applies to a person who is an applicant for or holder of a certificate under Subchapter B, Chapter [21](#), and who is employed by or is an applicant for employment by a school district, open-enrollment charter school, or shared services arrangement.
- (c) The board shall review the national criminal history record information of a person who has not previously submitted fingerprints to the department or been subject to a national criminal history record information review.
- (d) The board shall place an educator's certificate on inactive status for failure to comply with a deadline for submitting information required under this section.
- (e) The board may allow a person who is applying for a certificate under Subchapter B, Chapter [21](#), and who currently resides in another state to submit the person's fingerprints and other required information in a manner that does not impose an undue hardship on the person.
- (f) The board may propose rules to implement this section, including rules establishing:
 - (1) deadlines for a person to submit fingerprints and photographs in compliance with this section; and
 - (2) sanctions for a person's failure to comply with the requirements of this section, including suspension or revocation of a certificate or refusal to issue a certificate.
- (g) Expired.

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE
TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION
SUBTITLE F. CURRICULUM, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES
CHAPTER 29. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
SUBCHAPTER A. SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

TEC, §29.061. BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND SPECIAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM TEACHERS.

- (a) The State Board for Educator Certification shall provide for the issuance of teaching certificates appropriate for bilingual education instruction to teachers who possess a speaking, reading, and writing ability in a language other than English in which bilingual education programs are offered and who meet the general requirements of Chapter 21. The board shall also provide for the issuance of teaching certificates appropriate for teaching English as a second language. The board may issue emergency endorsements in bilingual education and in teaching English as a second language.
- (b) A teacher assigned to a bilingual education program using one of the following program models must be appropriately certified for bilingual education by the board:
 - (1) transitional bilingual/early exit program model; or
 - (2) transitional bilingual/late exit program model.
- (b-1) A teacher assigned to a bilingual education program using a dual language immersion/one-way or two-way program model must be appropriately certified by the board for:
 - (1) bilingual education for the component of the program provided in a language other than English; and
 - (2) bilingual education or English as a second language for the component of the program provided in English.
- (b-2) A school district that provides a bilingual education program using a dual language immersion/one-way or two-way program model may assign a teacher certified under Subsection (b-1)(1) for the language other than English component of the program and a different teacher certified under Subsection (b-1)(2) for the English language component.
- (c) A teacher assigned to an English as a second language program must be appropriately certified for English as a second language by the board.

- (d) A school district may compensate a bilingual education or special language teacher for participating in a continuing education program that is in addition to the teacher's regular contract. The continuing education program must be designed to provide advanced bilingual education or special language program endorsement or skills.

- (e) The State Board for Educator Certification and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall develop a comprehensive plan for meeting the teacher supply needs created by the programs outlined in this subchapter.

TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE
TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT
SUBTITLE A. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE AND PRACTICE
CHAPTER 2001. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE
SUBCHAPTER B. RULEMAKING

TGC, §2001.021. PETITION FOR ADOPTION OF RULES.

- (a) An interested person by petition to a state agency may request the adoption of a rule.
- (b) A state agency by rule shall prescribe the form for a petition under this section and the procedure for its submission, consideration, and disposition. If a state agency requires signatures for a petition under this section, at least 51 percent of the total number of signatures required must be of residents of this state.
- (c) Not later than the 60th day after the date of submission of a petition under this section, a state agency shall:
 - (1) deny the petition in writing, stating its reasons for the denial; or
 - (2) initiate a rulemaking proceeding under this subchapter.
- (d) For the purposes of this section, an interested person must be:
 - (1) a resident of this state;
 - (2) a business entity located in this state;
 - (3) a governmental subdivision located in this state; or
 - (4) a public or private organization located in this state that is not a state agency.

TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE
TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT
SUBTITLE A. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE AND PRACTICE
CHAPTER 2001. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE
SUBCHAPTER B. RULEMAKING

TGC, §2001.039. AGENCY REVIEW OF EXISTING RULES.

- (a) A state agency shall review and consider for readoption each of its rules in accordance with this section.
- (b) A state agency shall review a rule not later than the fourth anniversary of the date on which the rule takes effect and every four years after that date. The adoption of an amendment to an existing rule does not affect the dates on which the rule must be reviewed except that the effective date of an amendment is considered to be the effective date of the rule if the agency formally conducts a review of the rule in accordance with this section as part of the process of adopting the amendment.
- (c) The state agency shall readopt, readopt with amendments, or repeal a rule as the result of reviewing the rule under this section.
- (d) The procedures of this subchapter relating to the original adoption of a rule apply to the review of a rule and to the resulting repeal, readoption, or readoption with amendments of the rule, except as provided by this subsection. Publishing the Texas Administrative Code citation to a rule under review satisfies the requirements of this subchapter relating to publishing the text of the rule unless the agency readopts the rule with amendments as a result of the review.
- (e) A state agency's review of a rule must include an assessment of whether the reasons for initially adopting the rule continue to exist.

TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE
TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT
SUBTITLE A. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE AND PRACTICE
CHAPTER 2001. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE
SUBCHAPTER C. CONTESTED CASES: GENERAL RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES

TGC, §2001.056. INFORMAL DISPOSITION OF CONTESTED CASE.

Unless precluded by law, an informal disposition may be made of a contested case by:

- (1) stipulation;
- (2) agreed settlement;
- (3) consent order; or
- (4) default.

TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE
TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT
SUBTITLE C. STATE ACCOUNTING, FISCAL MANAGEMENT, AND PRODUCTIVITY
CHAPTER 2110. STATE AGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

TGC, §2110.001 DEFINITION.

In this chapter, "advisory committee" means a committee, council, commission, task force, or other entity with multiple members that has as its primary function advising a state agency in the executive branch of state government.

TGC, §2110.0011 APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER.

This chapter applies unless and to the extent:

- (1) another state law specifically states that this chapter does not apply; or
- (2) a federal law or regulation:
 - (A) imposes an unconditional requirement that irreconcilably conflicts with this chapter;
 - or
 - (B) imposes a condition on the state's eligibility to receive money from the federal government that irreconcilably conflicts with this chapter.

TGC, §2110.0012 ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

For purposes of this chapter, a state agency has established an advisory committee if:

- (1) state or federal law has specifically created the committee to advise the agency; or
- (2) the agency has, under state or federal law, created the committee to advise the agency.

TGC, §2110.002 COMPOSITION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

- (a) An advisory committee must be composed of a reasonable number of members not to exceed 24.
- (b) The composition of an advisory committee that advises a state agency regarding an industry or occupation regulated or directly affected by the agency must provide a balanced representation between:
 - (1) the industry or occupation; and
 - (2) consumers of services provided by the agency, industry, or occupation.

TGC, §2110.003 PRESIDING OFFICER.

- (a) An advisory committee shall select from among its members a presiding officer.

- (b) The presiding officer shall preside over the advisory committee and report to the advised state agency.

TGC, §2110.004 REIMBURSEMENT OF MEMBERS' EXPENSES; APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS.

- (a) Notwithstanding other law, the manner and amount of reimbursement for expenses, including travel expenses, of members of an advisory committee may be prescribed only:
 - (1) by the General Appropriations Act; or
 - (2) through the budget execution process under Chapter [317](#) if the advisory committee is created after it is practicable to address the existence of the committee in the General Appropriations Act.
- (b) A state agency that is advised by an advisory committee must request authority to reimburse the expenses of members of the committee through the appropriations or budget execution process, as appropriate, if the agency determines that the expenses of committee members should be reimbursed. The request must:
 - (1) Identify the costs related to the advisory committee's existence, including the cost of agency staff time spent in support of the committee's activities;
 - (2) state the reasons the advisory committee should continue in existence; and
 - (3) identify any other advisory committees created to advise the agency that should be consolidated or abolished.
- (c) As part of the appropriations and budget execution process, the governor and the Legislative Budget Board shall jointly identify advisory committees that should be abolished. The comptroller may recommend to the governor and the Legislative Budget Board that an advisory committee should be abolished.
- (d) The General Appropriations Act may provide for reimbursing the expenses of members of certain advisory committees without providing for reimbursing the expenses of members of other advisory committees.
- (e) This section does not apply to an advisory committee the services of which are determined by the governing board of a retirement system trust fund to be necessary for the performance of the governing board's fiduciary duties under the state constitution.

TGC, §2110.005 AGENCY-DEVELOPED STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND TASKS; REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

A state agency that establishes an advisory committee shall by rule:

- (1) state the purpose and tasks of the committee; and

- (2) describe the manner in which the committee will report to the agency.

TGC, §2110.006 AGENCY EVALUATION OF COMMITTEE COSTS AND EFFECTIVENESS.

A state agency that has established an advisory committee shall evaluate annually:

- (1) the committee's work;
- (2) the committee's usefulness; and
- (3) the costs related to the committee's existence, including the cost of agency staff time spent in support of the committee's activities.

TGC, §2110.007 REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD.

A state agency that has established an advisory committee shall report to the Legislative Budget Board the information developed in the evaluation required by Section [2110.006](#). The agency shall file the report biennially in connection with the agency's request for appropriations.

TGC, §2110.008 DURATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

- (a) A state agency that has established an advisory committee may designate the date on which the committee will automatically be abolished. The designation must be by rule. The committee may continue in existence after that date only if the agency amends the rule to provide for a different abolishment date.
- (b) A Unless the state agency that establishes an advisory committee designates a different date under Subsection (a), the committee is automatically abolished on the later of:
 - (1) September 1, 2005; or
 - (2) the fourth anniversary of the date of its creation.
- (c) Not An advisory committee that state or federal law has specifically created as described in Section [2110.0012](#)(1) is considered for purposes of Subsection (b)(2) to have been created on the effective date of that law unless the law specifically provides for a different date of creation.
- (d) This section does not apply to an advisory committee that has a specific duration prescribed by statute.

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 53. CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTION
SUBCHAPTER D. PRELIMINARY EVALUATION OF LICENSE ELIGIBILITY

TOC, §53.105. FEES.

A licensing authority may charge a person requesting an evaluation under this subchapter a fee adopted by the authority. Fees adopted by a licensing authority under this subchapter must be in an amount sufficient to cover the cost of administering this subchapter.

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 53. CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTION
SUBCHAPTER E. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL INELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSE

TOC, §53.151. DEFINITIONS.

Notwithstanding Section [53.001](#), in this subchapter, "licensing authority" and "occupational license" have the meanings assigned to those terms by Section [58.001](#).

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 53. CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTION
SUBCHAPTER E. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL INELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSE

TOC, §53.152. NOTICE BY ENTITIES PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS.

- (a) An entity that provides an educational program to prepare an individual for issuance of an initial occupational license shall notify each applicant to and enrollee in the educational program of:
- (1) the potential ineligibility of an individual who has been convicted of an offense for issuance of an occupational license on completion of the educational program;
 - (2) the current guidelines issued under Section [53.025](#) by any licensing authority that may issue an occupational license to an individual who completes the educational program;
 - (3) any other state or local restriction or guideline used by a licensing authority described by Subdivision (2) to determine the eligibility of an individual who has been convicted of an offense for an occupational license issued by the licensing authority; and
 - (4) the right to request a criminal history evaluation letter under Section [53.102](#).
- (b) The entity shall provide the notice required under Subsection (a) to each applicant and enrollee regardless of whether the applicant or enrollee has been convicted of an offense.

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 53. CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTION
SUBCHAPTER E. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL INELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSE

TOC, §53.153. REFUNDS AND ORDERED PAYMENTS.

A licensing authority that determines that an entity regulated by the licensing authority has failed to provide the notice required by Section [53.152](#) to an individual entitled to receive the notice and that the individual's application for an occupational license for which the entity's educational program prepares the individual was denied because the individual has been convicted of an offense shall order the entity to:

- (1) refund the amount of any tuition paid by the individual to the entity; and
- (2) pay to the individual an amount equal to the total of the following, as applicable:
 - (A) the amount of any application fees paid by the individual to the licensing authority; and
 - (B) the amount of any examination fees paid by the individual to the licensing authority or an examination provider approved by the licensing authority.

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 54. EXAMINATION ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY;
EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSON WITH DYSLEXIA

TOC, §54.003. EXAMINATION ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSON WITH DYSLEXIA.

- (a) In this section, "dyslexia" has the meaning assigned by Section [51.970](#), Education Code.
- (b) For each licensing examination administered by a state agency, the agency shall provide reasonable examination accommodations to an examinee diagnosed as having dyslexia.
- (c) Each state agency shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including rules to establish the eligibility criteria an examinee must meet for accommodation under this section.

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 55. LICENSING OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, MILITARY VETERANS, AND
MILITARY SPOUSES

TOC, §55.002. EXEMPTION FROM PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO RENEW LICENSE.

A state agency that issues a license shall adopt rules to exempt an individual who holds a license issued by the agency from any increased fee or other penalty imposed by the agency for failing to renew the license in a timely manner if the individual establishes to the satisfaction of the agency that the individual failed to renew the license in a timely manner because the individual was serving as a military service member.

TEXAS OCCUPATIONS CODE
TITLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO LICENSING
CHAPTER 55. LICENSING OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, MILITARY VETERANS, AND
MILITARY SPOUSES

TOC, §55.003. EXTENSION OF LICENSE RENEWAL DEADLINES FOR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS.

A military service member who holds a license is entitled to two years of additional time to complete:

- (1) any continuing education requirements; and
- (2) any other requirement related to the renewal of the military service member's license.