

Graduate Procedures for Qualifying to Take TExES Examinations

To become a certified School Counselor in the State of Texas, all school counseling candidates must pass the exam specific to their certification area:

❖ School Counselor

Early Childhood to Twelfth grade:

- TExES #152 School Counselor

The Texas Education Agency allows teacher preparation programs to determine when candidates in their respective program may qualify/have demonstrated readiness to take the TExES exams. Faculty within the Our Lady of the Lake Education Department established the following guidelines and qualifications for school counselor candidates:

Baseline Data

- a. After official admittance into the school counseling program and during pre-practicum, candidates take a Practice TExES test (School Counselor 152) as a means of collecting base-line data for the Education Department and to demonstrate readiness. Effective Fall 2019 candidates will be given a Certify Teacher access account during COUN 6351.

Qualifying to be authorized to register for official TExES Certification Exams, candidates must:

- b. Demonstrate readiness on the Certify Teacher Practice TExES School Counselor test with an overall score of 240=80%.

Note: Candidates under ESW (enforced scholastic withdrawal) will not be authorized to test.

- d. When candidates have demonstrated readiness on their Practice TExES exam, they should submit their Certify Teacher practice score report to the Certification Officer.

NOTE: This includes professional certification and individuals re-taking an exam. Once student scores have demonstrated readiness, they will receive an email notification providing registration instructions for the official TExES certification exam.

Preparation Plan

- a. A candidate who does not achieve the level required to demonstrate readiness (80%) on the Practice TExES exam must consult with the Certification Officer via email at bagranados@ollusa.edu to review and develop their preparation plan
- b. Preparation Plan may include:
 - Follow through with Study Plan provided by Certify Teacher along with retaking the practice exam on the Certify Teacher site <http://www.certifyteacher.com>
 - Retesting of the Practice exam using a paper-based practice test
 - Test Anxiety Sessions

- Content Review Sessions
- Review of Study Guides, Web Based Programs, and Texts
- Private Tutoring outside of OLLU
- Region 20 Test Preparation Service

c. Upon completion of all components of their Preparation Plan, candidates will receive authorization to retest for the Certify Teacher practice exam.

d. When candidates have demonstrated readiness on their Practice TExES exam with a score of 80% or better they will receive an email notification providing certification exam registration instructions.

Registering for TExES Certification exams

e. Effective September 1, 2018 Texas educator candidates will need to create a NEW Pearson testing account in order to register for TExES certification exams by logging into <http://www.tx.nesinc.com>, clicking on “My Account” on the upper right hand corner of the page, selecting “Create an account now” and following the prompts.

To register for a certification exam, go to <http://www.tx.nesinc.com>, select “Register” and follow the instructions provided. You must have created a Pearson testing account and have your TEA ID number to register.

The Pearson Testing website also contains a variety of test preparation resources free of charge.

***Testing fees are due when registering for an official certification exam and are \$116 per exam with a test payment processing fee**

NOTE: Your driver’s license first and last name MUST match the name on your admission ticket. Consult [Pearson Testing Policies](#) regarding specific ID requirements/policy and test center rules. An admission ticket is required at the test location each time you take a test. You may print your admission ticket from the online registration system at www.texas.ets.org.

Corrective Action Plan

f. If a candidate does not achieve a passing score on the official TExES certification exam, he/she must wait 45 days before attempting to test again. Candidates will communicate with the Certification Officer, sign a Five Testing Limit Letter of Understanding, and develop a Corrective Action Plan in conjunction with program faculty that may include:

- Additional login (6-10 hours) on Certify Teacher with the passing of a practice exam with a minimum score of **260** on Certify Teacher site <http://www.certifyteacher.com>
- Test Anxiety Sessions
- Content Review Sessions
- Review of Study Guides, Web Based Programs, and Texts
- Private Tutoring outside of OLLU
- Region 20 Test Preparation Sessions

Accommodations for Disabilities or Health-related needs

- a. School Counselor candidates who need accommodations for the practice TExES exams at the OLLU Testing Center must contact the Services to Students with Disabilities Office/SSD at least 30 days prior to the first diagnostic (practice) session to obtain official documentation. Official documentation from the Services to Students with Disabilities Office must be provided to the advisor and the OLLU Testing Center for accommodations to be provided. If a student applies for accommodations with TEA, they must be receiving accommodations from OLLU's Services to Students with Disabilities Office. **Contact Info:**
Sueltenfuss Library Rm's 124 & 125 Office (210) 431-4010 Appts (210) 528-7158 ada@ollusa.edu
- b. **Students should understand that TEA does not have to grant accommodations and OLLU accommodations do not necessarily translate into TEA accommodations.**
- c. Candidates requesting accommodations for the official TExES certification exam must log into the Pearson website at [Pearson Alternative Testing Arrangements](#) to obtain information about requesting alternative testing arrangements. Candidates must then submit the request form and the required documentation after registering for the test but PRIOR to scheduling a testing appointment for the test.
- a. **NEW Five Testing Attempts Limit**
Beginning September 1, 2015, candidates will be limited to five attempts to take a certification test. The five attempts include the first attempt to pass the examination and four retakes. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is implementing this change to Texas Education Code §21.048 in response to House Bill 2205, 84th Texas Legislature, 2015. For more information, please see the [Educator Certification Examination Retake Limit FAQs](#)
- [Texas Education Agency \(TEA\)](#)
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