



## Steps to becoming a Texas School Counselor

### Texas School Counselor Certificate Requirements: (Located under TEA Student Services Certificates)

- Complete an approved Educator Preparation Program for the specific certificate desired, so you must complete your OLLU Master of Education, School Counselor program.
- Hold a master's degree from an institution of higher education that is accredited by an accrediting agency, as recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (outside source), which you will have as soon as you complete your MEd School Counselor program and your degree gets conferred by the university. See your program Director, Dr. Katrina Cook for specific program requirements not listed here.
- Have two years of classroom teaching experience in a public or accredited private school.\*
  - Please note that if a student was admitted to the program prior to September 1, 2023, the student is required to have 2 years of teaching experience according to [TAC Code 239.20](#). If a student is admitted to the program after September 1, 2023, the student is not required to have 2 years of teaching experience according to [Senate Bill \(SB\) 798](#)."
- Complete the required test. (TExES Certification Exam School Counselor 252)\*
  - \*Before being allowed to take the official certification exam you must demonstrate readiness (TAC §230.21) with a score of 240 or better on the practice exam (program policy)
- Apply for certification via your TEAL/ECOS account: <https://tealprod.tea.state.tx.us/> and pay the required fee.
  - If you need assistance with this, contact the Certification Officer, Mrs. Chapman at [schapman@ollusa.edu](mailto:schapman@ollusa.edu) and she will send you a pdf with instructions on how to do so.

### Steps to Demonstrating Readiness for the TExES Certification Exam:

1. Reserve a testing spot for the approved Saturday testing dates with Certification Officer, Mrs. Sharon Chapman at [schapman@ollusa.edu](mailto:schapman@ollusa.edu).
2. Receive verification of testing reservation from the Certification Officer, Mrs. Chapman via Email OR you can request the promo code from the Certification Officer to purchase Certify Teacher and take the practice exam online 24/7.
3. Candidates MUST score 240 or better on the practice exam
  - a) If taking the paper version of the exam the Certification Officer, Mrs. Chapman will score your practice exam and provide an analysis within 1 week
  - b) If taking the online Certify Teacher practice exam scores are immediate
  - c) If you demonstrate readiness with a score of 240 or better the Certification Officer, Mrs. Chapman will release you on ECOS to sign up for the official TExES School Counselor exam via the Pearson website: [http://www.tx.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/TX152\\_TestPage.html](http://www.tx.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/TX152_TestPage.html)
4. If you did not demonstrate readiness you will need to repeat steps # 1-3

**IMPORTANT:** The TExES School Counselor exam (252) is a CAT Test and is now offered year-round. To check appointment availability see the attached Pearson link:

[http://www.tx.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\\_FRAG/TX152\\_TestPage.html](http://www.tx.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/TX152_TestPage.html)