All-Level and Secondary Teacher Certifications

Certification Options

All-Level Certifications
Early Childhood – Grade 12
- Art
- French
- German
- Music
- Spanish
- Theatre
- Physical Education students should consult their academic advisor.

Secondary Certifications
Grades 7 – 12 (unless noted)
- Dance (6-12)
- English Language Arts & Reading
- Family & Consumer Science (6-12)
- History
- Human Development & Family Studies (8-12)
- Journalism
- Social Studies
- Speech

Teach North Texas (TNT) Secondary Certifications
Grades 7 – 12 (unless noted)
TNT students should consult TNT advisors.
Curry Hall 322; (940) 565-2265
- Chemistry
- Computer Science (8-12)
- Life Science
- Mathematics
- Physics/Mathematics
- Physical Science (6-12)
- Science

Teacher Education Program Admission Requirements

1. Junior classification (minimum of 60 earned credit hours)
2. 2.75 Overall GPA and 2.75 UNT GPA
3. Appropriate exam scores on either the SAT, ACT, or Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators test
   - Required for ALL students seeking teacher certification without exception.
   - Contact the COE Student Advising Office (SAO) at (940) 565-2736 or Matthews Hall 105 for required admission scores.
   - Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators test
     - Required sections: Reading (#5712); Writing (#5722); Math (#5732); All three sections combined (#5751)
     - For details & registration visit [https://www.ets.org/praxis](https://www.ets.org/praxis); calling Praxis hotline: (800) 772-9476 or UNT Testing Center: (940) 369-7617
4. An official degree audit that includes certification, obtained from your academic advisor
5. Rating of “Approved” on the online Interview Questionnaire
   - Instructions are available at [http://coe.unt.edu/tedinterview](http://coe.unt.edu/tedinterview).
   - Must be approved by department in order to be admitted to the teacher education program
   - Submitted questionnaires are reviewed by department at the beginning of each month
   After completing items 1 through 5, schedule an appointment with the COE SAO by calling at (940) 565-2736, visiting the office at Matthews Hall 105, or through Appointment Manager to complete items 6 and 7 and to finalize the admission process.
6. A signed Application for Admission
7. An offer letter of formal admission which must be signed and returned to the COE SAO within 72 hours of receipt.

COE Pedagogy Courses

- Admission to Teacher Education is required prior to enrolling in most Pedagogy courses.
- Course requirements may vary by program. See your academic advisor and official degree audit for specific requirements.
- TNT students should consult the TNT office for clinical/early field experience details. See the Clinical Practice Office for student teaching information and placement.
- Physical Education students should consult their academic advisor.

Art and Music Certifications
- EDCI 3800 Professional Issues
- EDCI 4060 Content Area Reading
- HDF5 3123 Child Development
- See your department for clinical/early field experience and student teaching information and placement.

The following are taken as your final long semester. All other courses must be completed prior to Student Teaching.
- EDXX 41XX Student Teaching
- EDXX 41XX Student Teaching

All other certification (except TNT & Physical Education)
- EDCI 3800 Professional Issues
- EDCI 4060 Content Area Reading
- EDCI 3830 Process and Evaluation
- EDCI 4070 Diverse Populations
- EDCI 4840 Instructional Strategies/Classroom Mgmt
  - Clinical/early field experience requires time in assigned school(s); taken the long semester prior to Student Teaching
  - Registration requires a permission code from the Clinical Practice Office
  - Apply during the long semester before enrollment [https://www.coe.unt.edu/clinical-practice-office](https://www.coe.unt.edu/clinical-practice-office)

The following are taken as your final long semester. All other courses must be completed prior to Student Teaching
- EDXX 41XX Student Teaching
- EDXX 41XX Student Teaching

State TExES Certification Exams

All certification students must pass state TExES certification exams to become teacher certified in the state of Texas:
- Content area TExES: The test will assess your knowledge of the subject(s) you will teach as a professional teacher in a school setting.
- TExES LOTE EC-12: Required for all foreign language content areas. The test includes a pronunciation section and a multiple-choice section covering grammar, translations, culture, and literature.
- TExES Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR) for EC-12: This test will assess your knowledge of good teaching practices and the ways in which a professional teacher should behave in a school setting.

For additional information, contact the TExES Advising Office at (940) 369-8601, Matthews Hall 103, or [https://www.coe.unt.edu/texes](https://www.coe.unt.edu/texes)

This information is for ADVISING ONLY and is not official. Requirements can and do change without notification. Refer to official degree audit for degree requirements. Revised: August 30, 2018
# Teacher Certification Process Checklist

- **Apply to the Teacher Education Program as soon as eligible.**

- **Explore foliotek. You will use it in the EDXX courses.** [my.unt.edu](http://my.unt.edu)

- **Two long semesters before Clinical (Student) Teaching**
  - Semester and year: 
    - Typically during AEAH 4750 for Art certification students; sequencing varies for all other certifications.
    - Course sequencing can vary based on track and course scheduling. Always consult your academic advisor to determine your course sequencing.
  - Attend an informational meeting and apply for early field experience ([www.coe.unt.edu/clinical-practice-office](http://www.coe.unt.edu/clinical-practice-office))
  - Music education students do not attend this meeting; consult your academic advisor
  - Take practice certification exams ([www.coe.unt.edu/texels](http://www.coe.unt.edu/texels))
  - Must be admitted to the Teacher Education Program
  - Must be enrolled at UNT for the current semester
  - Preparation manuals are available through the TExES Advising Office website at [www.coe.unt.edu/texels](http://www.coe.unt.edu/texels)
  - For questions about practice exams contact the TExES Advising Office in Matthews Hall 103 or at (940) 369-8601.

- **Long semesters before Clinical (Student) Teaching**
  - Semester and year: 
    - Typically during AEAH 4780 for Art, MUED 4103 or 4109 for Music, and EDCI 4840 for all other certification students (except TNT & PE)
    - Course sequencing can vary based on track and course scheduling. Always consult your academic advisor to determine your course sequencing.
  - Visit with the TExES Advising Office to gain access to your TEAL account with the Texas Education Agency (TEA)
  - Write down the TEA ID number you are assigned and keep it in a safe place
  - Take the “real” state TExES certification content exam(s) and, if possible, the PPR TExES exam.

- **Semester of Clinical (Student) Teaching**
  - Semester and year: 
  - Take or retake any remaining state TExES certification exam(s) that you have not taken or passed ([www.coe.unt.edu/texels](http://www.coe.unt.edu/texels))
  - Attend the mandatory student teacher orientation at the beginning of the semester.
  - Apply for graduation through the college of your major
  - Apply for teacher certification with the State of Texas at [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)
    - To apply for your certification you MUST meet the following criteria:
      - Be in your final semester
      - Passed all the required state TExES certification exams
      - Passed clinical (student) teaching
    - How to apply (visit [www.coe.unt.edu/student-advising-office/steps-teacher-certification](http://www.coe.unt.edu/student-advising-office/steps-teacher-certification) for detailed instructions)
      1. Log into your TEAL account at [www.tea.state.tx.us](http://www.tea.state.tx.us)
      2. Click on Applications
      3. Select "Standard Certification"
      4. For the entity to recommend you, select “University of North Texas (University Based)”
    - After submission of your application, UNT’s Certification Specialist will review your application to ensure that you have met the state requirements. Please be patient as your application is processed; the Certification Specialist reviews hundreds of applications each semester.
    - To be recommended to the TEA by UNT you MUST meet the following criteria:
      - The appropriate degree posted to your official UNT transcript
      - The appropriate GPAs posted on your degree audit, these include UNT, Overall, teaching field, and pedagogy GPAs
      - Passing scores on the appropriate state TExES certification exams
      - A submitted application for teacher certification through the TEA website

**UNT does not award teacher certifications. UNT recommends teacher certification candidates to TEA. TEA is authorized by the Texas State Board of Education to award teacher certificates.**

Once UNT recommends you to TEA, you will receive a confirmation email from TEA informing you that you have been recommended by UNT. TEA will only issue the certificate AFTER you have paid all applicable fees, your fingerprinting status shows “complete” on your TEAL account, and you have passed a TEA criminal background check. You may review current TEA criminal background checks guidelines, and also, you have the right to request a criminal history evaluation letter from TEA, at [https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/](https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/).

Once TEA issues you a teacher certificate, you may view and print the certificate through your TEAL account.

If you have questions regarding teacher certification, please visit [www.coe.unt.edu/student-advising-office/steps-teacher-certification](http://www.coe.unt.edu/student-advising-office/steps-teacher-certification) or contact Jill Denniston at jill.denniston@unt.edu.