

Dismissal from the Educator Preparation Program

(Based in part upon Title 19, Part 7, Chapter 249 of the Texas Administrative Code)

The grounds for dismissal from the Educator Preparation Program (EPP) shall be based upon the following purposes as presented in T19:P.7:C249:SubA:Rule249.5:

1. To protect the safety and welfare of Texas schoolchildren and school personnel.
2. To ensure educators and applicants are morally fit and worthy to instruct or to supervise the youth of the state.
3. To regulate and to enforce the standards of conduct of educators and applicants.
4. To enforce an educators' code of ethics.

Each candidate in the Educator Preparation Program will be of good moral character as defined in Chapter 249. Good moral character is defined as "the virtues of a person as evidenced, at a minimum, by his or her not having committed crimes relating directly to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession or acts of moral turpitude." Acts for which an individual will be dismissed from the Educator Preparation Program of Angelo State University will include, but not be limited to, the following as related to "good moral character."

1. Reported criminal history.
 - a. Felony criminal offense;
 - b. Indecent exposure;
 - c. Public lewdness;
 - d. Child abuse and/or neglect;
 - e. Possession of a weapon on school property;
 - f. Drug offenses occurring on school property;
 - g. Sale to or making alcohol or other drugs available to a student or minor;
 - h. Sale, distribution, or display of harmful material to a student or minor.
 - i. Certificate fraud;
 - j. Serious testing violations;
 - k. Deadly conduct.
2. Solicited or engaged in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student or minor
3. Sexually or physically abused a student or minor or engaged in any other illegal conduct with a student or minor.
4. Possessed, transferred, sold, or distributed a controlled substance.
5. Illegally transferred, appropriated, or expended school property or funds.
6. Attempted by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or to alter any certificate or permit that would entitle the individual to be employed in a position requiring such certificate or permit or to receive additional compensation associated with a position.
7. Committed a crime, any part of such crime having occurred on school property of school – sponsored event.
8. Violation of the Texas Teacher Code of ethics..
9. Inability to comply with the Angelo State University Educator Preparation Program disposition statements.
10. Violation of the Angelo State University student code of conduct.

11. Inability to place a candidate in a field based setting due to actions within a school district.

Process

1. Violations addressed in the Dismissal policy will be forwarded to the Admission, Dismissal, and Retention Committee.
2. The violation will be documented in writing.
3. The documented violations will be sent to the Director of Field Experiences. The Director will notify the candidate of the complaint.
4. Within 10 working days, the information will be given to the Chair of the Admission, Dismissal, and Retention Committee.
5. The Chair of the ADR Committee will convene a meeting within 10 days of receiving the information.
6. A decision of the committee will be presented to the Chair of the Teacher Education Council within 40 working days of the original complaint.
7. The committee can request that the candidate present information.
8. The committee can recommend:
 - a. Permanent dismissal from the program. (Automatic dismissal for Violations 1 to 7)
 - b. Suspension from the program for a determined period of time.
 - c. Other sanctions deemed appropriate by the committee.
9. The committee's decision is final.