

§227.10. Admission Criteria.

- (a) The educator preparation program delivering educator preparation shall require the following minimum criteria of all candidates prior to admission to the program, except candidates for career and technology education certification:
- (1) for an undergraduate university program, a candidate shall be enrolled in an educator preparation program from an institution of higher education that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency, as recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB);
 - (2) for an alternative certification program or post-baccalaureate program, a candidate shall have a baccalaureate degree earned from and conferred by an institution of higher education that is recognized by one of the regional accrediting agencies by the THECB, specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection;
 - (3) for an undergraduate university program, alternative certification program, or post-baccalaureate program, a candidate shall meet the following criteria in order to be eligible to enter an educator preparation program:
 - (A) an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 or at least 2.5 in the last 60 semester credit hours; or
 - (B) documentation and certification from the program director that a candidate's work, business, or career experience demonstrates achievement equivalent to the academic achievement represented by the GPA requirement. This exception to the minimum GPA requirement will be granted by the program director only in extraordinary circumstances and may not be used by a program to admit more than 10% of any cohort of candidates; and
 - (C) for a program candidate who will be seeking an initial certificate, a minimum of 12 semester credit hours in the subject-specific content area for the certification sought, a passing score on a content certification examination, or a passing score on a content examination administered by a vendor on the Texas Education Agency (TEA)-approved vendor list published by the commissioner of education for the calendar year during which the candidate seeks admission;
 - (4) for a program candidate who will be seeking an initial certificate, the candidate shall demonstrate basic skills in reading, written communication, and mathematics or by passing the Texas Academic Skills Program® (TASP®) test or the Texas Higher Education Assessment® (THEA®) with a minimum score of 230 in reading, 230 in mathematics, and 220 in writing. In the alternative, a candidate may demonstrate basic skills by meeting the requirements of the Texas Success Initiative (Texas Education Code, §51.3062) under the rules established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in Part 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter C of this title (relating to Texas Success Initiative);
 - (5) for a program candidate who will be seeking an initial certificate, the candidate shall demonstrate oral communication skills as specified in §230.413 of this title (relating to General Requirements);
 - (6) an application and either an interview or other screening instrument to determine the educator preparation candidate's appropriateness for the certification sought; and
 - (7) any other academic criteria for admission that are published and applied consistently to all educator preparation candidates.
- (b) An educator preparation program may adopt requirements in addition to those explicitly required in this section.
- (c) An educator preparation program may not admit a candidate who has completed another educator preparation program in the same certification field or who has been employed for three years in a public school under a permit or probationary certificate as specified in Chapter 232, Subchapter A, of this title (relating to Types and Classes of Certificates Issued).

- (d) An educator preparation program may admit a candidate for career and technology education certification who has met the experience and preparation requirements specified in Chapter 230 of this title (relating to Professional Educator Preparation and Certification) and Chapter 233 of this title (relating to Categories of Classroom Teaching Certificates).
- (e) An educator preparation program may admit a candidate who has met the minimum academic criteria through credentials from outside the United States that are determined to be equivalent to those required by this section using the procedures and standards specified in Chapter 245 of this title (relating to Certification of Educators from Other Countries).

Source: The provisions of this §227.10 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10011.

§227.15. Contingency Admission.

- (a) A candidate may be accepted into an alternative certification program or post-baccalaureate program on a contingency basis pending receipt of an official transcript showing degree conferred, as specified in §227.10(a)(2) of this title (relating to Admission Criteria), provided that:
 - (1) the candidate is currently enrolled in and expects to complete the courses and other requirements for obtaining a baccalaureate degree at the end of the semester in which admission to the program is sought; and
 - (2) all other program admission requirements have been met.
- (b) A candidate admitted on a contingency basis may begin program training and may be approved to take a certification examination, but shall not be recommended for a probationary certificate until the candidate has been awarded a baccalaureate degree.
- (c) The contingency admission will be valid for only the semester for which the contingency admission was granted and may not be extended for another semester.

Source: The provisions of this §227.15 adopted to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10011.

§227.20. Implementation Date.

This chapter applies to an educator preparation program candidate who is admitted to an educator preparation program on or after January 1, 2009.

Source: The provisions of this §227.20 adopted to be effective July 11, 1999, 24 TexReg 5011; amended to be effective December 14, 2008, 33 TexReg 10011.