

Division of Education

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Since West Texas A&M University was founded in 1910, its roots have been in the teacher education program. A major purpose of the Division of Education is to prepare individuals for professional positions as teachers, counselors, administrators and other service positions for both public and private schools at elementary and secondary levels. WTAMU is proud of its tradition of providing outstanding students through its graduate education program.

With the largest graduate student enrollment in the University, the Division of Education has nine options for a master's degree. A state test is required for certification for the standard professional certificate. To ensure quality, master's degree certificate programs are approved by the State Board for Educator Certification.

Professional Certificate Program (Standard Certification with Required Renewal)

- Administrator
 - Principal
 - Superintendent
 - Temporary Assistant Principal*
 - Temporary Principal*
- Educational Diagnostician
- Master Reading Teacher
- Reading Specialist
- School Counselor

*Certificate is non-renewable.

Other Programs

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Instructional Technology
- Professional Counseling

Supplemental Certificates (Subject to continuation by the State Board for Educator Certification.)

- Bilingual Education
- English as a Second Language
- Generic Special Education
- Technology Applications

Post-Baccalaureate Certification Program

WTAMU may admit to a special program and recommend for initial Texas teacher certification persons who possess at least a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution and who meet specific qualifications. Degreed individuals wishing to gain initial Texas teacher certification through the post-baccalaureate program should contact the assistant director of Teacher Certification located in Old Main, Room 424, (806)651-2668.

Alternative Teacher Certification

The Panhandle Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) program is an alternative teacher certification program. Its purpose is to prepare highly qualified individuals to serve as public school teachers in Texas. PACE is not designed to replace or compete with the traditional teacher certification program at WTAMU. PACE is a collaborative teacher education program involving WTAMU, the Region 16 Education Service Center and the public school districts in the 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle.

The PACE program is designed for persons who have completed a baccalaureate degree and who have a record of work and life experience appropriate to enhancement of the teaching and learning processes in the public school classroom. Certification is earned through a combination of intensive summer session course work coupled with year-long, supervised internship as teacher-of-record in a public or recognized private school. The teacher is jointly supervised by West Texas A&M University and the participating school district.

Through PACE, the following teaching certificates may be earned: secondary (grades 8–12), elementary (EC–4 or 4–8), generic special education (EC-12), bilingual education (EC-4). New certification levels may be in effect at a later date.

PACE Entry Requirements

- PACE applicants must present a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution with an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.75 and a GPA of 2.75 in the area of certification.
- Every applicant must also achieve a passing score on the THEA (TASP) with a minimum reading score of 260, or passing scores on the Accuplacer with a minimum reading score of 98. No exemptions.
- Additional requirements also apply to PACE applicants. PACE Program requirements may change each year due to state and/or federal policy and regulations regarding teacher certification. Applicants should request updated information during August if planning to apply for the following year by contacting the PACE Office, Old Main, Room 410, or phoning (806)651-2599. For more information, see the PACE Web site at www.wtamu/academic/ess/edu/pace.

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Master's Degrees, Standard Professional Certificate Programs

Admission Requirements

The professional certificate gives the holder legal authority to perform duties in public schools of Texas in the specialized area designated on the face of the certificate. Prerequisite for all master's programs, except professional counseling and instructional technology, is 18 semester hours of education.

Before beginning work toward the standard professional certificate, the student must hold the standard/provisional certificate in the appropriate prerequisite field. The student must also complete the proper graduate program, meet the additional requirement for the standard certificate of two years of teaching experience and pass the appropriate state test. To obtain a standard professional elementary certificate or standard professional secondary certificate, the student must hold a provisional teaching certificate at that level.

Curriculum Requirements

The master of education degree must be completed within six years. Requirements for the standard professional certificate must be completed within 10 years from the date a graduate student takes the first course required for the certificate. Credit earned by correspondence cannot be applied toward a certificate.

A graduate core of nine hours is required and includes EDPD 6303, 6304 and 6305.

Discipline	Course Prefix
Early Childhood	EDEC
Educational Administration	EDAD
Educational Psychology	EPSY
Elementary Education	EDEL
Generic Special Education	EDSP
Instructional Technology	EDT
Professional Development	EDPD
Reading	EDRD
Secondary Education	EDSE

NOTE: See the "Academic Courses and Abbreviations" and "Course Descriptions" sections of this catalog for a complete list of courses offered by the University.

Master of Education (M.Ed.) Degree

Major in Education Curriculum and Instruction (Major Code: 5455)

Prerequisite

Curriculum and Instruction

Prerequisite for all master's programs is 18 semester hours of education.

Requirements

The student and an adviser plan a curriculum of 36 hours, of which 24 will be in courses numbered 6000 and above. A minimum of six hours and maximum of 18 hours must be in a field(s) other than education.

Required courses

- The student will enroll in EDPD 6303 in the first nine hours of graduate study. In this course, the student will plan and file a master's degree plan.
- EDPD 6305, 6329.
- EDPD 6304.
- EDPD 6310.

Major in Administration (Major Code: 5456)

Principal's Standard Professional Certificate

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree.
- Meet all Graduate School requirements.
- Complete application/screening process including review of past academic performance and a check of educational references.

Options

- M.Ed. degree in administration.
- Principal certificate.
- Superintendent's certificate.
- Temporary principal certificate.

Requirements for M.Ed. Degree with Certification (Principal)

- EDPD 6303, 6304, 6305.
- EDAD 6352, 6303, 6394, 6093, 6304, 6305, 6306, 6307, 6311, 6312, 6330, 6353.

NOTE: EDAD 6303 (three hours) is a prerequisite to all other EDAD courses. In addition, students must complete at least 30 program hours to enroll in EDAD 6394, 6093 or 6312. Students may graduate with a M.Ed. degree upon completion of 36 semester hours (must complete core component). All 45 hours must be

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completed for principal certification. A state test is required for certification.

Requirements for Superintendent's Certification

EDAD 6092, 6314, 6316, 6320, 6321 to total 18 semester hours. For state certification, student must hold a mid-management or principal certificate prior to completion of this program. A state test is required for certification.

Temporary Certificate Requirements

Each of the following credentials is valid for five years and non-renewable. The student must complete the full program requirements within a 10-year period from the date of the first course taken.

Assistant Principal

- Bachelor's degree and provisional or standard teaching certificate.
- Two years teaching experience.
- Completion of 12 graduate hours in common core category (school administration and/or academic areas) in the administration preparation program.
- A minimum of six semester hours in school administration must have been completed at WTAMU.
- Completion of admission requirements for the administration program.

Principal

- Master's degree and provisional or standard teaching certificate.
- Two years of classroom teaching experience.
- Completion of 12 hours in school administration courses. A minimum of two courses in school administration must have been completed at WTAMU.
- Completion of admission requirements for the administration program.

Superintendent

- Master's degree and Professional Mid-management Administrator or Professional Principal Certificate.
- Completion of admission requirements for the professional superintendent program.

Major in Counseling (Major Code: 5457)

School Counselor Standard Professional Certificate

General Requirements

Formal admittance to the counselor education program requires:

- Admittance to WTAMU Graduate School;
- Admittance to the program based on a minimum composite score of 1,500 which will be calculated by Graduate Record Exam (GRE) + (last 60 hours GPA x 200) = 1,500. Applicants not meeting these criteria may

apply for conditional admission. (See the "Graduate School" section of this catalog.)

- Completion of a formal application form listing references to be contacted by the department; and
- Formal interviews conducted with candidates.

Before beginning work toward the standard professional certificate, the student must hold the appropriate standard/provisional certificate. Students entering this program must meet approval by the Counselor Admissions Committee. Before receiving the standard professional certificate, the student must complete the proper graduate program, have two years of teaching experience and pass the appropriate state test. The M.Ed. degree in counseling may be earned with 36 semester hours which must include at least six semester hours of practicum (EPSY 6399). After graduation, a deficiency plan must be filed in the Office of Teacher Certification which includes the additional nine semester hours required for certification. A state test is required for certification.

45 semester hours:

- EDPD 6303, 6304 or EPSY 6330, EDPD 6329.
- EPSY 6399 (six hours).
- EPSY 6306, 6324, 6305, 6328, 6350, 6375, 6327.
- PSYC 5360.
- Three semester hours from PSYC 5361, 5377, 6376, 6374, EPSY 6326, 6373, EDPD 6305.
- Three semester hours from EPSY 6322 or 6374.
- Three semester hours from EPSY 6327.

Students seeking Texas licensure as licensed professional counselors are required to complete a 3,000-clock-hour internship under approved supervision before taking the licensure exam.

Major in Special Education

(Major Code: 5418)

Admission

Candidate must:

- Hold a standard classroom teaching certificate;
- Complete a formal application and mandatory interview; and
- Meet University Graduate School admission requirements.

Prerequisite Courses

- EPSY 3350/6350 or EDSP 4351; EDSP 4352 or 6352 EDSP 4357 or 6357.

Educational Core Courses

- EDPD 6303, 6329, 6304, 6305.

Special Education Courses

- EDSP 6354, 7356, 6358, 6359, 6360, 6362, 6364.

Assessment Course

- EPSY 6322.

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Major in Educational Diagnostician (Standard Professional Certificate) (Major Code: 5460)

Requirements

Prerequisite: EPSY 3350/6350 or EDSP 4351; 4352 or 6352; and 4357 or 6357.

Admission—candidates must:

- Complete a formal application and mandatory interview;
- Meet University Graduate School admission requirements; and
- Hold a standard classroom teaching certificate.

Completion of 36 semester hours:

- EDPD 6303, 6329, 6304, 6305.
- EPSY 6322, 6374.
- EDSP 6354, 6356, 6358, 6359, 6364, 6376, 6377.

Students may graduate with a M.Ed. degree upon completion of 36 semester hours (must complete the graduate core component). All 39 hours must be completed for educational diagnostician certification, as well as state-mandated proficiency test(s).

Students who have not taken EPSY 6322 and/or 6374 at WTAMU must give evidence of competency in diagnosis and prescription by successfully completing a case study. Two years teaching experience in a public or private accredited school and successful completion of a state test is required for certification.

Major in Instructional Technology (Major Code: 5466)

Admission

- Meet all graduate admission requirements.
- Have approval of the Instructional Technology Admissions Committee.
- Enroll in EDPD 6303 and EDT 6310 within the first 12 hours of graduate study.
- With an adviser, plan and file master's degree plan within the first 12 hours of graduate study.

Requirements

- Education Core: EDPD 6303, 6329, 6378, 6305.
- Instructional Technology Core: EDT 6310, 6340, 6360, 6370.
- Instructional Technology Tools (nine hours from): EDT 6305, 6380, 6330, 6350, 6394, 6392, 6371, 6385.
- Graduate-level elective (three hours).

Major in Reading Education (Standard Professional Certificate) (Major Code: 5463)

Requirements

- Completion of application for program and meet WTAMU Graduate School admission requirements.
- Personal interview with the student's Master's Committee chairperson.

- A state test is required for certification as reading specialist with two years teaching experience in an accredited public or private school.
- Core Requirements (nine hours): EDPD 6303, 6304, 6305.
- Reading requirements (21 hours): EDRD 6332, 6640, 6341, 6344, 6345, 6346, 6348.
- Total required graduate hours: 36; undergraduate leveling courses required at discretion of adviser.
- Students with elementary certification must take six hours secondary electives approved by adviser.
- Students with secondary certification must take six hours of elementary electives approved by adviser.
- A state test is required for certification as reading specialist.

Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree

Major in Counseling (Major Code: 5464)

To enter the program, students must:

- Meet all graduate admission requirements.
- Have completed 12 semester hours in education and/or psychology.
- Make application to the program as explained online at wtccounseling.com.

Requirements (48 hours)

- EDPD 6303, EPSY 6308, 6327, 6328, 6372, 6375, 6376.
- EPSY 6330 or EDPD 6304 (three hours).
- EDPD 6329 or PSYC 5340 (three hours)
- EPSY 6399.
- EPSY 6398 (six hours).
- EPSY 6373.
- PSYC 5360 or 6360.
- Six hours from EPSY 6324, 6326, 6382, 6371; PSYC 5377, 6372, 6376, 6374, EPSY 6381 (with approval).

Students wishing to provide supervision after licensure are required to take EPSY 6382.

After completing the 48-semester-hour program, students must apply for a temporary license which is needed prior to beginning the required 3,000-clock-hour internship under approved supervision.

Marriage and Family Emphasis

- Six hours from EPSY 6324, 6326, 6381 (requires approval); PSYC 6374.

The marriage and family emphasis meets academic requirements set by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Marriage and Family Therapists.

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Supplemental Certificates

(Subject to continued approval by the State Board for Educator Certification.)

Prerequisite

- Bachelor's degree.
- Valid Texas teacher certificate.

Bilingual Education Requirements

- EDPD 5363, 5378.
- SPAN 4340, 5340, 5341.
- Appropriate state test.
- Professional-level oral proficiency in the language of the target population (TOPT).

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Requirements

- EDPD 6388.
- ENGL 3311.
- EDPD 6378.
- ENGL 6370.
- Appropriate state test.

Generic Special Education

Requirements

- EPSY 6350.
- EDSP 4352.
- EDSP 6356.
- EDSP 6358.
- EDSP 4359.
- EPSY 6322.
- Appropriate state test.

Technology Application Grades 8–12

Student must hold standard/provisional teaching certificate and complete the following courses:

- EDT 6350.
- EDT 6380.
- EDT 6320.
- EDT 6355.