

West Texas A&M University offers two Texas Education Agency approved programs designed for degreed individuals to complete Texas Teacher certification. The Panhandle Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) or Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Certification (Post-Bacc/Cert) program can help you reach your personal and professional goals.

Side-by-Side Program Comparison

PACE Program	Post-Bacc/Cert Program
❖ Cohort model with an annual priority application period, January 1 – March 1	❖ Ongoing application period; applications accepted any time during the year
❖ Quickest route to certification for eligible applicants; designed for completion within 16 months of admission (April-June)	❖ Preparation of a Certification Plan, valid for up to 3 years, which lists course work, testing, and other certification requirements
❖ Prescriptive program with professional education course work completed online beginning in May and continuing throughout the summer and during internship year	❖ Allows for flexibility in completing required course work over a period of up to 3 years
❖ Content course work not provided; applicants must have required content courses or have passed content exam before full admission	❖ Certification Plan may include required content course work as well as professional education course work
❖ Candidates must actively seek teaching positions for the fall following admission; may complete through student teaching only if unable to secure an internship	❖ Candidates have the option to complete through an internship or student teaching
❖ Course work is at the graduate level and may be applied, in part, to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree	❖ Content course work may be at the undergraduate level; professional education course work is at the graduate level and may be applied, in part, to the Master of Arts in Teaching degree
❖ A score of 260 on THEA or 98 on ACCUPLACER Reading test	❖ A score of 260 on THEA or 98 on ACCUPLACER Reading test
❖ 2.75 overall GPA or 2.75 on the last 60 hours of the bachelor's degree	❖ 2.5 overall GPA or 2.5 on the last 60 hours of the bachelor's degree
❖ Selective screening process; preference given to applicants in high-need areas	❖ Available to candidates who meet admission requirements

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible?	<p>Alternative certification is designed for an individual who has previously earned a bachelor's degree and wants to make a career transition into the teaching profession.</p> <p>Each applicant must meet a minimum GPA requirement and have course work that supports the target certificate or have passed the content certification exam.</p>
How do I apply?	<p>To apply for admission to the PACE or Post-Bacc/Cert program, go to the alternative certification website www.wtamu.edu/altcert and download the appropriate application.</p> <p>To apply for admission to West Texas A&M University, complete the online Texas common graduate application at www.applytexas.org.</p>
When should I apply?	<p>Applications are accepted throughout the year for Post-Bacc/Cert, but the priority application period for PACE is January 1 - March 1 each year.</p>
Whom do I contact for additional information?	<p>Ms. Susan L. Dennis, M.Ed. Director slidennis@wtamu.edu</p> <p>Mr. Gilbert Antunez, M.Ed. Assistant Director gantunez@wtamu.edu</p> <p>Ms. Tracy McNutt Administrative Assistant tmcnutt@wtamu.edu</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Office of Alternative Certification WT Box 60208 Canyon, TX 79016-0001</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Department of Education West Texas A&M University Old Main, Room 413 (806) 651-2599, phone (806) 651-3626, fax</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.wtamu.edu/altcert</p>	