

Alternative Certification Programs

Would you like to make a difference in the lives of young people? Would you like to help children succeed? Would you like to add value to your college degree with a teaching certificate?

We can help you do all of these through West Texas A&M University's alternative certification programs. We offer two Texas Education Agency approved programs designed for degreed individuals to complete Texas Teacher certification.

We invite you to learn how a teacher certification acquired through the Panhandle Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE) or Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Certification (Post-Bacc) program can help you reach your personal and professional goals.

Questions about the Application and Admission Process

<p>Who is eligible?</p>	<p>Alternative certification is designed for individuals who have previously earned a bachelor's degree and who now seek to make a career transition into the teaching profession.</p> <p>Applicants must meet a minimum GPA requirement and have coursework that supports the target certification area.</p>	
<p>How do I apply?</p>	<p>To apply for admission to the PACE or Post-Bacc 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 application at www.applytexas.org.</p>	
<p>When should I apply?</p>	<p>Applications are accepted throughout the year, but the priority application period for the PACE program is February 1 – April 1 each year.</p>	
<p>Whom do I contact for additional information about alternative teacher certification?</p>	<p>Ms. Susan L. Dennis, M.Ed. Director, Alternative Certification Programs Instructor Department of Education West Texas A&M University WTAMU Box 60208 Canyon, TX 79016 (806) 651-2599 sldennis@wtamu.edu</p>	<p>Mr. Gilbert Antunez, M.Ed. Assistant Director Alternative Certification Programs Department of Education West Texas A&M University WTAMU Box 60208 Canyon, TX 79016 (806) 651-2599 gantunez@wtamu.edu</p>



About Alternative Certification

West Texas A&M University offers two routes for degreed individuals to achieve Texas teacher certification:

1. Panhandle Alternative Certification for Educators (PACE)
2. Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Certification Program (Post-Bacc)

PACE Program	Post-Bacc Program
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Priority application, February 1 – April 1, each year (cohort model)❖ Quickest route to certification for eligible applicants (designed for completion within 16 months)❖ Structured program with professional education coursework completed during summer sessions and online during internship year❖ Content coursework not provided (applicants must have required content coursework or have passed content exam before acceptance)❖ Candidates must actively seek a teaching position for the fall following the summer of coursework and training and may complete through student teaching only if unable to secure a teaching position (internship)❖ Coursework is at the graduate level❖ THEA (260) or ACCUPLACER (98) scores required for reading❖ 2.75 overall GPA (or 2.75 on the last 60 hours of the bachelors degree)❖ Selective screening process including personal interviews; not all who meet requirements are accepted; preference given to applicants in high-need areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Ongoing application (accepted any time during the year)❖ Preparation of a Deficiency Plan that is valid for up to 3 years (modeled after traditional undergraduate degree plans for teacher certification candidates)❖ Allows for flexibility in completing required coursework over a period of time❖ Deficiency Plan may include content coursework as well as professional education coursework❖ Candidates may complete through an internship or student teaching❖ Content area coursework may be at the undergraduate level; professional education coursework is at the graduate level❖ THEA (260) or ACCUPLACER (98) scores required for reading❖ 2.5 overall GPA (or 2.5 on the last 60 hours of the bachelors degree)❖ Available to candidates who meet admission requirements