



## TEExES PREP Center

### TEExES Exam Policy for TWU Educator Preparation Program Candidates

Educator certification exams are an essential component of the Texas Woman's University College of Professional Education (COPE) Educator Preparation Program (EPP). Our initial and professional certification education programs are designed to prepare candidates to be successful in the field of education and includes successful completion of the Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TEExES) certification exams. The TEExES certification exams are administered by Pearson on behalf of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). There are many TEExES certification exams from which to choose; the exams candidates take are determined by the certification(s) sought. The passing score on any of the TEExES exams is a score of 240 out of a possible 300. TWU candidates register with Pearson for their exams for a minimum cost of \$116 per exam.

The TWU EPP limits practice exam attempts to three (3) times per exam. If a candidate has not passed an exam after three attempts, that candidate is no longer permitted to take that exam. All candidates must go through an approval process before registering for Pearson exams.

The TWU TEExES Prep Center offers practice exams during the weekday each semester. The practice exams are an excellent way to receive feedback before registering for the actual state exam and to identify areas needed for additional review. Along with the results, candidates will receive suggestions on the next steps for taking and passing the actual exam.

Our goal is to help candidates prepare to pass exams on the first attempt. We provide materials and opportunities for practice before candidates sit for exams with Pearson.

### General Information

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The opportunity to take TEExES Practice Exams through TWU's TEExES Prep Center is limited strictly to TWU candidates. Candidates should take their content TEExES practice exam first, PPR practice exam second, and then any supplemental exams if applicable. TWU candidates must pass the practice exam before attempting the state certification exam (see TWU Practice Test Passing Scores).

Practice exams are offered multiple times throughout the semester. Candidates should check the TEExES Prep Center [website](#) schedule for dates and times. **Deadline to register: 48 hours before the exam.**



### **Practice Exam - Cost**

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The cost of each practice exam session for all exams is \$25.00.

Core Subjects (EC-6 or 4-8): This exam is 5 hours long and each of the domains are timed differently according to the State Exam specifications. TWU candidates will need to pass each individual subject before being approved to take the State Exam. Candidates will be able to retake each of the subjects not passed at a separate administration. However, candidates **must** take the entire exam on the first attempt.

The cost of an individual EC-6 or 4-8 Core Subject Exam retake after a previous full exam attempt is \$7.00.

### **Scores**

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Test results are emailed to the student's TWU email address within 1-3 business days of the administration date. Candidates should **not** email the Prep Center for their scorecard before the 1-3 business days have passed.

### **TWU EPP Candidates - Approval for State Exams**

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Before approval can be given for any TExES exam, TWU EPP candidates must demonstrate proficiency in the subject area and readiness for the exam.

All TWU EPP candidates pursuing Initial Certification must pass a practice exam for their specific content area, Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR), the Science of Teaching Reading (STR) and supplemental (if applicable) prior to approval for any TExES exam.



## Testing Policies for Initial Certification Programs

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### Practice Exams

**Note:** All TPC exams are proctored through Respondus LockdownBrowser. If a student attempts an exam without Respondus LockdownBrowser proctoring the testing session, the testing session will count as an attempt and the testing coordinator will not grade the exam.

1. For candidates who have attempted a practice exam prior to July 1, 2018, testing approvals are granted on a case-by-case basis.
2. If the candidate passes a practice test with a score of 80% or higher on the first attempt, he or she will be given approval to attempt the TExES exam.
3. If the candidate does not pass a practice test on the first attempt, he or she will:
  - a. Receive a score report to review Domains and Competencies where test items were missed.
  - b. **Wait at least two weeks before attempting a second time.**
  - c. During these weeks, students are encouraged to use a third-party study resource (e.g., Certify Teacher, 240 Tutoring) to prepare; students should contact the Testing Coordinator for a list of resources and related materials.
4. If the candidate does not pass a practice test on the second attempt, he or she:
  - a. Effective June 25, 2020, students must wait **at least two weeks** before trying again.
5. Each candidate will have no more than three attempts to pass any given practice test. After the third failure, the candidate will:
  - a. Be advised to transfer to the BS in Education non-certification degree or drop the Education minor if secondary/all-level (if the test not passed is the PPR or content).
  - b. Be advised to change his or her degree plan (i.e., drop supplemental certification in special education, ESL, or bilingual) if that is the only practice test the candidate doesn't pass by the third attempt.

### TExES (State) Exams

1. If the candidate passes a TExES exam on the first attempt, that is ideal.
2. If the candidate does not pass the TExES exam on the first attempt, he or she will:
  - a. Wait a **minimum** of 30 days prior to registering for a second exam.
  - b. Use 240 Tutoring or other third-party study resources (during the waiting period) to study and pass the appropriate exam (i.e., equivalent to the TExES exam) with 90% or better. Documentation of this must be submitted (along with the other documentation in "c" below) to obtain a second approval. Candidates should email Katy Eshelman, [keshelman@twu.edu](mailto:keshelman@twu.edu), for a discount code, if available.
  - c. Document a success plan via Tk20 in conjunction with the Testing Coordinator. The success plan may include meetings with instructors to



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review domains and competencies, a meeting with the Education Student Affairs Committee, and/or the use of additional resources to demonstrate readiness to attempt the exam a second time.

3. Once a candidate completes the above steps, he or she can request to receive a second approval from OEPS. If approved, the candidate may register and attempt the exam within a **minimum** of 30 days of receiving the second approval. If there is limited administration of the exam, the candidate must attempt the exam on the next available testing session. If the candidate does not register and test by published deadlines, the candidate must complete a TWU EPP Appeal Form and submit evidence and justification to receive a second approval.
4. If the candidate does not pass a TExES exam on the second attempt, he or she will follow up with OEPS and his or her faculty advisor for additional instructions, which may result in additional coursework, dropping supplemental certification(s), or change/transfer to a different degree (e.g., BS Education non-cert., drop EDUC minor, etc.).

All students must be admitted to the TWU Educator Preparation Program and be in good standing with the university to take a TExES exam.

**Practice Testing through 240 Tutoring or Mometrix**

**Effective September 6, 2022**, students have the choice of either taking the TExES Prep Center (TPC) practice tests, 240 Tutoring or Mometrix.

If a student chooses the **TPC practice tests** all guidelines remain the same. Students will have three (3) attempts to pass with an 80% or higher to be given approval for state testing. The cost of the practice tests also remains unchanged. For more information please visit the [TExES Prep Center](#) site.

Students will purchase 240 tutoring but are able to request a discount code. Please email [keshelman@twu.edu](mailto:keshelman@twu.edu) to request the discount code.

Mometrix is free for enrolled TWU students. Please click [here](#) for the link. Use your TWU credentials to log in (without [@twu.edu](#)) in your username. Once you are logged in click the 'teaching' tab and scroll to the TExES tests. Send a screenshot as a pdf attachment of the score report to Katy Eshelman, [keshelman@twu.edu](mailto:keshelman@twu.edu).

**The TPC, 240 Tutoring and Mometrix tests do not mix and match.**

Students whose content area is **not offered on 240 Tutoring** will continue to take the practice tests with the TExES Prep Center or Mometrix.

These content areas include:

Art

Educational Diagnostician

FSC

Music

School Librarian

Theater



### **Practice Testing through Mometrix**

If a student chooses the **Mometrix** option then the student will need to email Mrs. Katy Eshelman ([keshelman@twu.edu](mailto:keshelman@twu.edu)) as a pdf attachment of the practice score to confirm the passing rate of 80% or higher before approval for the state test will be given.

Students can access **Mometrix** through this [link](#) and use their TWU credentials (do not put the @twu.edu behind your name) to access the site, then choose the 'teaching' tab and scroll down to the TExES Exams modules.

Candidates must score an 80% or higher on all practice tests in order to be approved for a state test. Candidates have no more than three (3) attempts to pass any given practice test with a minimum two (2) week waiting period between attempts.

The deadline to have all practice and state tests passed to be eligible to clinical teach in a **fall semester is June 1st.**

The deadline to have all practice and state tests passed to be eligible to clinical teach in a **spring semester is November 1st.**

### **Academic Testing Year and Timing of Testing**

The goal of our program is for candidates to be finished with all certification requirements upon graduation. To that end, we strive to help candidates finish their testing requirements prior to the student teaching semester. To be eligible for student teaching, students must pass all state certification tests (including supplemental if applicable). If a student does not pass a TExES exam administered by Pearson, he or she must wait 30 days before retesting (state-mandated waiting period). Candidates shall register and retest 30 days after the 30-day wait period. If the candidate does not retest within the timeframe, testing permissions will be removed. The OEPS, the Testing Coordinator or the candidate's faculty advisor are available for consultation and study planning in this event.



## **Alternative Testing Arrangements**

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Alternative testing arrangements that are supported by documentation from the [Office of Disability Services for Students](#) (DSS) and appropriate in the context of the practice exam may be provided for candidates who would not be able to take the exam under standard conditions.

**Accommodations available without pre-approval.** All candidates are permitted to take breaks to use the restroom, take medication, use an inhaler, or attend to other medical or personal needs without prior approval. Any time taken for these breaks is considered part of the candidate's available testing time.

## **Rescore Policy**

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**Multiple choice questions:** A request for rescoring multiple choice questions can be made by emailing Katy Eshelman, [keshelman@twu.edu](mailto:keshelman@twu.edu), with your name, the test date, the test name and attach the scorecard in question. In the event that the rescoring process results in a score alteration, you will be issued a corrected score report and your records will be updated. If the original score is confirmed, you will be sent an email indicating that the original score has been confirmed. It will be a 3 day waiting period for a response.



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**TWU Minimum Practice Test Passing Scores**

| <b>Cert Exam</b>  | <b># of items</b> | <b>Spring 2018<br/>Passing<br/>Score</b> | <b># of items to<br/>achieve 80%</b> |
|---|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 115 Mathematics (Grades 4-8)                            | 80                | 75                                       | 64                                   |
| 116 Science (Grades 4-8)                                | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 117 English Language Arts and Reading (Grades 4-8)      | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 118 Social Studies (Grades 4-8)                         | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 154 English as a Second Language Supplemental           | 60                | 80                                       | 48                                   |
| 157 Health (Grades EC-12)                               | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 160 PPR (EC-12)   | 90                | 80                                       | 72                                   |
| 164 Bilingual Supplemental                              | 60                | 80                                       | 48                                   |
| 177 Music (Grades EC-12)                                | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 178 Art (Grades EC-12)                                  | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 180 Theatre (Grades EC-12)                              | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 190 BTLPT   | -                 | 80                                       | -                                    |
| 200 Family and Consumer Sciences (Grades 6-12)          | 100               | 80                                       | 80                                   |
| 231 English Language Arts and Reading (Grades 7-12)     | -                 | 80                                       | -                                    |
| 232 Social Studies (Grades 7-12)                        | 120               | 80                                       | 96                                   |
| 233 History (Grades 7-12)                               | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 235 Mathematics (Grades 7-12)                           | 80                | 75                                       | 64                                   |
| 236 Science (Grades 7-12)                               | 120               | 80                                       | 96                                   |
| 237 Physical Science (Grades 6-12)                      | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 238 Life Science (Grades 7-12)                          | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 258 Physical Education (240 or Mometrix only)           | 80                | 80                                       | 64                                   |
| 279 Dance (Grades 6-12)                                 | 100               | 80                                       | 80                                   |
| 283 Special Education Specialist (240 or Mometrix only) | 90                | 80                                       | 72                                   |
| 293 Science of Teaching Reading                         | 100               | 80                                       | 80                                   |
| 901 EC-6 Core Subjects: ELAR                            | 38                | 80                                       | 31                                   |
| 902 EC-6 Core Subjects: Math                            | 34                | 80                                       | 28                                   |
| 903 EC-6 Core Subjects: Social Studies                  | 34                | 80                                       | 28                                   |
| 904 EC-6 Core Subjects: Science                         | 38                | 80                                       | 31                                   |
| 905 EC-6 Core Subjects: Fine Arts/PE/Health             | 34                | 80                                       | 28                                   |



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|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| 806 4-8 Core Subjects: ELAR           | 65 | 80 | 52 |
| 807 4-8 Core Subjects: Math           | 35 | 80 | 28 |
| 808 4-8 Core Subjects: Social Studies | 35 | 80 | 28 |
| 809 4-8 Core Subjects: Science        | 35 | 80 | 28 |

### Testing Policies for Professional Certification Programs

Below are the testing policies for each professional certification program offered at TWU.

| Professional Cert program   | Testing policy   |
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| Educational Diagnostician<br>(253)<br><i>Updated March 17, 2021</i> | <p>Before educational diagnostician candidates may register for the <i>EDSP 5863- Educational Diagnostician Practicum</i>, they must meet all of the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Complete all assessment specific courses (<i>EDSP 5033, EDSP 5833, EDSP 5843</i>) with a minimum final course grade of B.</li><li>● Score a minimum of 85% on the instructor-created course exam in EDSP 5833 or EDSP 5843 (<i>whichever course is taken second</i>).</li><li>● Score a minimum of 85% on the TWU Prep Center practice test.</li><li>● Pass the TExES Educational Diagnostician Certification State Exam (253)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Once the TWU Prep Center practice test is passed, the candidate will be given approval to register for the <a href="#">TExES Educational Diagnostician 253 certification exam</a>.</li><li>○ If the candidate does not earn an 85% or higher on the TWU practice exam, the candidate will be instructed to contact his/her advisor to schedule a meeting and create a success plan, which includes reviewing tested standards, competencies, and course materials.</li><li>○ Once the conditions of the success plan have been met, approval may be granted to retake the TExES Educational Diagnostician 253 exam.</li></ul></li></ul> |





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|                    | <p>The TWU EPP limits practice testing attempts to three (3) times per exam. If a candidate has not passed an exam after three attempts, that candidate is no longer permitted to take that exam.</p> <p><i>In this case, students will change their degree plan to graduate with a Master's in Special Education (without Educational Diagnostician Certification).</i></p> <p><i>**Note: This change in degree plan may result in additional courses.</i></p> <p>The TExES Educational Diagnostician 253 exam scores are monitored by the TWU Office of Educator Preparation Services (OEPS). Any revisions to the above processes are made by Special Education faculty members in conjunction with TWU Educator Preparation Program personnel; revisions are made as needed to address evolving accountability measures.</p> |
| Reading Specialist | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading Specialist candidates seek approval from the Reading Specialist Coordinator to attempt the Reading Specialist exam during READ 5963, which is taken during the last semester of the program.</li><li>• If students do not pass the test on their first attempt, they must meet with program faculty and complete a success plan. Approval for a second attempt is only granted if the student has successfully completed the plan and the program faculty member approves.</li></ul>   |
| School Librarian   | <p>In SLIS, graduate students only (prof cert):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The student must have successfully completed 18 hours of required coursework (or be near completion), 15 of which must have been completed at TWU</li><li>• The student must have successfully completed the three required school librarian certification courses (5233, 5333, and 5443, 5603)</li></ul> <p>If the student does not pass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meets with the student to review scores, examining competencies and domains</li><li>• Map a course of study, logging date/time, competencies studied, materials used, and</li></ul>   |



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|                  | <p>knowledge gained, studying for 2 hours for each point below the passing level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete a success plan, noting actions to prepare and why the student is now prepared to retake the exam</li><li>• Once the hours on the log match the required hours assigned, approved to retake</li></ul>  |
| School Counselor | <p>Graduate students must successfully complete: FS 5033 Foundations of School Counseling, FS 5043 Critical Issues in School Counseling, and FS 5363 Pre-practicum.</p> <p>If the student does not pass:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meet with School Counseling advisor to review scores, competencies, and domains</li><li>• Complete a success plan to prepare the student to retake the exam</li><li>• Approval for 2nd attempt will be granted upon successful completion of the success plan</li></ul>  |
| Principal        | <p>PAIL (268) and PASL (368) Policy (updated 10/10/2022)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Students in the Principal Certification program earning a Master's in Educational Leadership <b>and</b> Principal Certification-Only will be required to pass the Principal as Instructional Leader (PAIL) 268 and Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL) 368 prior to being allowed to register for the final course - ELDR 6613 Internship for the Principal.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Preparation for the practice test and PAIL (268) exam will occur throughout ELDR courses, namely during ELDR 6513. T-TESS and AEL trainings are highly encouraged to help pass the exam.</li><li>b. Preparation for the PASL 368 exam will occur in the following courses: ELDR 5203 and ELDR</li></ol></li></ol> |



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|  | <p>5973. Students will complete the three required PASL tasks, submit to their advisor for review, and then obtain approval to register for the PASL 368.</p> <p>c. A student must have all three PASL tasks submitted before he/she will be approved to register for internship (ELDR 6613).</p> <p>2. In order to register to take the PAIL 268 exam, students must demonstrate mastery on a practice exam. <b>All PAIL students MUST take the TWU TExES Prep center PAIL 268 practice exam at least once.</b> Students will show readiness to take the state 268 exam by meeting one of the following conditions:</p> <p>a. A student scores 80% or better on the Multiple Choice section (56/70 questions) <b>AND</b> scores all 3s on the Constructed Response portion of the exam (75%); If the student fails to meet the CR threshold, the student will be required to retake the practice exam.</p> <p>b. A student scores all 3s (75%) on the Constructed Response portion of the exam, but does not meet the 80% MC threshold. The student can either choose to retake the exam to achieve 80% MC mastery <b>OR</b> can submit proof of mastery via 240 tutoring. 240 tutoring proof must show 80% or better on all principal competencies. Email <a href="mailto:TExESPrep@twu.edu">TExESPrep@twu.edu</a> for a discount code.</p> <p>c. If students struggle to meet either the MC or CR passing thresholds after two practice test attempts, the student will be instructed to contact ELDR faculty to schedule a meeting and create a success plan which includes reviewing tested standards, competencies, and course materials.</p> <p>d. Additionally, if a student fails the PAIL (268) TExES exam, approval for a second attempt will not be provided until all coursework (not including internship), AEL training, T-TESS</p> |
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|                | <p>training, and any other requirements are completed.</p> <p>The PAIL (268) and PASL (368) exam scores are monitored by the TWU Office of Educator Preparation Services (OEPS). Any revisions to the above processes are made by Educational Leadership faculty members in conjunction with TWU Educator Preparation Program personnel; revisions are made as needed to address evolving accountability measures.</p>  |
| Superintendent | <p>TExES Superintendent 195 (updated 10/3/2024)</p> <p>For students earning Superintendent Certification, the TExES Superintendent 195 exam must be taken and passed with the following prerequisites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• During the last semester of coursework, and at least 80% of superintendent courses have been taken, the student will take the practice/released Superintendent test and pass with a 76%-80%. Once the practice test is passed, the student will be approved to take the TExES Superintendent 195 exam.</li><li>• If a student does not earn 76%-80% or better on the practice exam, the student will be instructed to contact his or her advisor to schedule a meeting and create a success plan, which includes reviewing tested standards, competencies, and course materials. Once the conditions of the success plan have been met, approval may be granted to take the TExES Superintendent 195 exam.</li><li>• If a student fails the TExES Superintendent 195 exam, approval for a second attempt will not be provided until all coursework (not including internship), AEL training, T-TESS training, T-PESS training, and any other requirements are completed.</li><li>• TExES Superintendent 195 exam must be passed before a student can register for internship (ELDR 6663). <i>The program coordinator for the PHD in ELO for the Track 1: Superintendency Program may consider an override of any prerequisites for a student as supported by evidence that the student is prepared</i></li></ul> |



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|  | <p><i>to pass the TExES Superintendent 195 exam and on a case-by-case basis.</i></p> <p>The TExES Superintendent 195 exam scores are monitored by the TWU Office of Educator Preparation Services (OEPS). Any revisions to the above processes are made by Educational Leadership faculty members in conjunction with TWU Educator Preparation Program personnel; revisions are made as needed to address evolving accountability measures.</p> |
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