

Texas Education Career Routes

NAME _____ DATE _____ PERIOD _____

State Requirements and Provider Details

For most Texas classroom-teacher certificates, TEA lists five common requirements. Some CTE certificates have different degree, work-experience, or license rules.

COMMON REQUIREMENT	WHAT IT MEANS
Accredited bachelor's degree	Required for most classroom-teacher certificates
Approved educator preparation program (EPP)	The program must be approved for the certificate route
Appropriate certification exams	The EPP helps identify and authorize the required exams
State certification application	Apply after the EPP confirms eligibility
Fingerprinting/background review	Required for first-time applicants

Source: Texas Education Agency, *Becoming a Classroom Teacher in Texas*, checked August 2026.

Preparation may be university-based, post-baccalaureate, alternative certification, or an approved residency. These details can vary by provider: admission, clinical teaching or internship, residency, price, aid, timing, and employment rules.

Two statewide requirements in my own words:

Two details I must verify with a specific provider:

Language help: requirement = requisito | provider = proveedor | varies = varía | verify = verificar

Educational Aide I and Irving Boundary

TEA lists two possible Educational Aide I eligibility patterns. One pattern is for a high-school graduate or GED holder with approved experience working with students or parents. The high-school-student pattern includes being at least 18, earning 70 or better in at least two specified Education and Training courses for three or more credits, written superintendent verification, application steps, and a criminal-history review that includes fingerprinting.

Current Irving public evidence names **Education and Training** at Irving High, MacArthur, and Nimitz and **Early Childhood Education** at Cardwell. A public program listing does not guarantee admission, a schedule, travel, certification, placement, or employment.

One Educational Aide I condition:

One claim the pathway name does not prove:

One question for a counselor or CTE coordinator:

Complete frame: The Irving page confirms **[verified fact]**. It does not prove **[unverified detail]**. I would ask **[person or office]** before planning around the program.

Compare Before Choosing

Fictional student: Jordan wants to teach high-school mathematics. Jordan is comparing a university program that combines a mathematics degree with approved educator preparation and an approved program completed after a mathematics degree.

DECISION FACTOR	UNIVERSITY-BASED PATTERN	AFTER-DEGREE PATTERN
When the bachelor's degree is completed	During the route	Before the route begins
Approved educator preparation	Must be verified	Must be verified
Clinical teaching/internship/residency	Provider-specific	Provider-specific
Price, aid, and timing	Provider-specific	Provider-specific

Three exact provider facts Jordan should compare:

What can Jordan conclude now, and what is still missing?

Complete frame: Jordan cannot choose from the route label alone. Jordan should compare **[factor 1]**, **[factor 2]**, and **[factor 3]**. The better-supported next step is **[action]** because **[evidence]**.

Do not open an application, contact a provider, submit personal data, or pay a fee for this lesson.