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All Candidates

Texas A&M – Corpus Christi

Background History Disclosure

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi expressly discloses the following:

1. As a provider of teacher education programs, Texas A&M – Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) must ensure its students demonstrate adherence to the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators, which requires the observance of federal and state law. An arrest, indictment, conviction, and/or deferred adjudication may result in a student being dismissed from the program.
2. While Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi does not perform criminal history background checks, Texas public schools are permitted by state law to conduct criminal history background checks on a person intended for hire or a person who has requested a volunteer position. As a participant in field experiences or student teaching in a Texas public school, you are subject to a criminal history background check.
3. While Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi does not perform criminal history background checks, the Texas State Board for Educator Certification requests information regarding any previous arrest, indictment, conviction, and/or deferred adjudication. When applying for state certification, you will be subject to a criminal history background check by the State Board for Educator Certification. An applicant with a criminal history may be denied certification.
4. If a candidate has had any previous arrest, indictment, conviction, and/or deferred adjudication, then the candidate has the right to request a **Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation (PCHE)** from TEA. The findings of TEA's Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation (PCHE) request does not assure that certification will be granted. Candidates must receive criminal history background check clearance upon submission of certification application after graduation.

Please read front and back of form before signing below.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ A#: _____

SECTION 249.16. Eligibility of Persons with Criminal History for a Certificate under Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 53, and Texas Education Code, Chapter 21

- (a) Pursuant to the Texas Occupations Code (TOC), Chapter 53, and the Texas Education Code (TEC), Chapter 21, Subchapter B, the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) may suspend or revoke an existing valid certificate, deny an applicant a certificate, bar a person from being assessed or examined for a certificate, or take other disciplinary action because of a person's conviction of a felony or misdemeanor or certain other criminal history.

(b) Disciplinary action under the TOC, §53.021, does not apply to a person convicted only of an offense punishable as a Class C misdemeanor unless the person is an applicant for or the holder of a license that authorizes the person to possess a firearm and the person was convicted of the misdemeanor offense of domestic violence as defined by 18 United States Code, §921.

(c) When statute or SBEC rule codified in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 19, Part 7, requires an offense to directly relate to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession, an offense is considered to directly relate if the offense indicates a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of a student or minor, parent of a student, fellow employee, or professional colleague; interferes with the orderly, efficient, or safe operation of a school district, campus, or activity; or indicates impaired ability or misrepresentation of qualifications to perform the functions of an educator. Offenses considered to relate directly to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession include, but are not limited to:

 - (1) offenses involving moral turpitude;
 - (2) offenses involving any form of sexual or physical abuse or neglect of a student or minor or other illegal conduct with a student or minor;
 - (3) offenses involving any felony possession or conspiracy to possess, or any misdemeanor or felony transfer, sale, distribution, or conspiracy to transfer, sell, or distribute any controlled substance defined in the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481;
 - (4) offenses involving school property or funds;
 - (5) offenses involving any attempt by fraudulent or unauthorized means to obtain or alter any certificate or permit that would entitle any person to hold or obtain a position as an educator;
 - (6) offenses occurring wholly or in part on school property or at a school-sponsored activity; or
 - (7) felony offenses involving driving while intoxicated (DWI).

(d) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) staff, pursuant to the TOC, Chapter 53, and the requirements of this chapter, shall notify the applicant or certificate holder in writing of the TEA staff's intent to seek disciplinary action, including denial or revocation, and the reasons for the proposed action. The applicant or certificate holder shall have the opportunity to be heard according to the procedures set forth in this chapter.

(e) The grounds for revoking or suspending a certificate provided by this section and the TOC, Chapter 53, are cumulative of the other grounds and remedies provided by the TEC, §21.060, and this chapter.

TAC title 19, Part 7, Chapter 247: Rule §247.1 states: The Texas educator shall comply with standard practices and ethical conduct toward students, professional colleagues, school officials, parents, and members of the community and shall safeguard academic freedom. The Texas educator, in maintaining the dignity of the profession, shall respect and obey the law, demonstrate personal integrity, and exemplify honesty and good moral character. The Texas educator, in exemplifying ethical relations with colleagues, shall extend just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession. The Texas educator, in accepting a position of public trust, shall measure success by the progress of each student toward realization of his or her potential as an effective citizen. The Texas educator, in fulfilling responsibilities in the community, shall cooperate with parents and others to improve the public schools of the community. This chapter shall apply to educators and candidates for certification.

Enforceable standards.

(1) Professional Ethical Conduct, Practices and Performance.

(A) Standard 1.1. The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engage in deceptive practices regarding official policies of the school district, educational institution, educator preparation program, the Texas Education Agency, or the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) and its certification process.

(B) Standard 1.2. The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly misappropriate, divert, or use monies, personnel, property, or equipment committed to his or her charge for personal gain or advantage.

(C) Standard 1.3. The educator shall not submit fraudulent requests for reimbursement, expenses, or pay.

(D) Standard 1.4. The educator shall not use institutional or professional privileges for personal or partisan advantage.

(E) Standard 1.5. The educator shall neither accept nor offer gratuities, gifts, or favors that impair professional judgment or that are used to obtain special advantage. This standard shall not restrict the acceptance of gifts or tokens offered and accepted openly from students, parents of students, or other persons or organizations in recognition or appreciation of service.

(F) Standard 1.6. The educator shall not falsify records, or direct or coerce others to do so.

(G) Standard 1.7. The educator shall comply with state regulations, written local school board policies, and other state and federal laws.

(H) Standard 1.8. The educator shall apply for, accept, offer, or assign a position or a responsibility on the basis of professional qualifications.

(I) Standard 1.9. The educator shall not make threats of violence against school district employees, school board members, students, or parents of students.

(J) Standard 1.10. The educator shall be of good moral character and be worthy to instruct or supervise the youth of this state.

(K) Standard 1.11. The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly misrepresent his or her employment history, criminal history, and/or disciplinary record when applying for subsequent employment.

(L) Standard 1.12. The educator shall refrain from the illegal use, abuse, or distribution of controlled substances, prescription drugs, and toxic inhalants.

(M) Standard 1.13. The educator shall not be under the influence of alcohol or consume alcoholic beverages on school property or during school activities when students are present.

(2) Ethical Conduct Toward Professional Colleagues.

(A) Standard 2.1. The educator shall not reveal confidential health or personnel information concerning colleagues unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law.

(B) Standard 2.2. The educator shall not harm others by knowingly making false statements about a colleague or the school system.

(C) Standard 2.3. The educator shall adhere to written local school board policies and state and federal laws regarding the hiring, evaluation, and dismissal of personnel.

(D) Standard 2.4. The educator shall not interfere with a colleague's exercise of political, professional, or citizenship rights and responsibilities.

(E) Standard 2.5. The educator shall not discriminate against or coerce a colleague on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, disability, family status, or sexual orientation.

(F) Standard 2.6. The educator shall not use coercive means or promise of special treatment in order to influence professional decisions or colleagues.

(G) Standard 2.7. The educator shall not retaliate against any individual who has filed a complaint with the SBEC or who provides information for a disciplinary investigation or proceeding under this chapter.

(H) Standard 2.8. The educator shall not intentionally or knowingly subject a colleague to sexual harassment.

(3) Ethical Conduct Toward Students.

(A) Standard 3.1. The educator shall not reveal confidential information concerning students unless disclosure serves lawful professional purposes or is required by law.

(B) Standard 3.2. The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly treat a student or minor in a manner that adversely affects or endangers the learning, physical health, mental health, or safety of the student or minor.

(C) Standard 3.3. The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly misrepresent facts regarding a student.

(D) Standard 3.4. The educator shall not exclude a student from participation in a program, deny benefits to a student, or grant an advantage to a student on the basis of race, color, gender, disability, national origin, religion, family status, or sexual orientation.

(E) Standard 3.5. The educator shall not intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engage in physical mistreatment, neglect, or abuse of a student or minor.

(F) Standard 3.6. The educator shall not solicit or engage in sexual conduct or a romantic relationship with a student or minor.

(G) Standard 3.7. The educator shall not furnish alcohol or illegal/unauthorized drugs to any person under 21 years of age unless the educator is a parent or guardian of that child or knowingly allow any person under 21 years of age unless the educator is a parent or guardian of that child to consume alcohol or illegal/unauthorized drugs in the presence of the educator.

(H) Standard 3.8. The educator shall maintain appropriate professional educator-student relationships and boundaries based on a reasonably prudent educator standard.

(I) Standard 3.9. The educator shall refrain from inappropriate communication with a student or minor, including, but not limited to, electronic communication such as cell phone, text messaging, email, instant messaging, blogging, or other social network communication. Factors that may be considered in assessing whether the communication is inappropriate include, but are not limited to:

- (i) the nature, purpose, timing, and amount of the communication;
- (ii) the subject matter of the communication;
- (iii) whether the communication was made openly, or the educator attempted to conceal the communication;
- (iv) whether the communication could be reasonably interpreted as soliciting sexual contact or a romantic relationship;
- (v) whether the communication was sexually explicit; and
- (vi) whether the communication involved discussion(s) of the physical or sexual attractiveness or the sexual history, activities, preferences, or fantasies of either the educator or the student.

Source Note: The provisions of this §247.2 adopted to be effective March 1, 1998, 23 TexReg 1022; amended to be effective August 22, 2002, 27 TexReg 7530; amended to be effective December 26, 2010, 35 TexReg 11242.

Signature of Candidate

A-Number

Date

Islander Email

Personal/Alternate Email



FERPA Consent to Release Educational Records and Information

This release represents your written consent to permit Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi (TAMUCC) to disclose educational records and any information contained therein to the specific individual(s) identified below. Please read this document carefully and fill in all blanks.

I, _____ as a candidate admitted to the _____
Printed Legal Name Name of Certification Program

hereby give my voluntary consent:

A. To disclose the following records:

- TExES test score results

B. To the following person(s):

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi school officials who are:

- employed by TAMUCC in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position,
- serving on a TAMUCC governing body,
- under contract to TAMUCC to perform a special task or service, or
- who is a student serving in an official capacity for TAMUCC.

C. These records are being released for the purpose of:

- aggregate for program evaluation/assessment for continuous improvement.
- assisting individual students with skill/knowledge improvement/remediation.
- Determining eligibility for certification
- Completing required submission of data for state and federal reports.

I understand that under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (“FERPA” 20 USC 123g; 34 CFR §99; commonly known as the “Buckley Amendment”) no disclosure of my records can be made without my written consent unless otherwise provided for in legal statues and judicial decisions. I also understand that I may revoke this consent at any time (via written request to the educator preparation program) except to the extent that action has already been taken upon this release.

Signature of Candidate (entered name indicates acceptance)

Date

Candidate TEA ID#: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Phone#: _____

Personal Email Address: _____



TAMU-CC EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM CONTINUATION AND DISMISSAL POLICY

Graduate

In order to continue in the Educator Preparation Program (EPP), a student must do as follows:

- Continue to meet admission standards.
- Remain in good standing with their Site/Course Professor, University Supervisor, Cooperating Teacher, and school placement Principal.
- Make satisfactory progress toward teacher certification.

Reasons for dismissal from the Educator Preparation Program may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Failure to meet course requirements
- Lack of progress or success on a continuation plan
- Violation of the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators (RULE §247.2)
- Non-adherence to the EPP Handbook Contract
- Lack of progress demonstrating the Teacher Standards (RULE §149.1001) and TExES PPR Domains and Competencies
- Violation of school district and/or campus rules and regulations
- Excessive tardiness, absences, or failure to complete or make-up days missed
- Failure to respond to feedback from the Site/Course Professor, University Supervisor, Cooperating Teacher, and/or school placement Principal.

Procedures for removing a student from the Educator Preparation Program:

- If dismissal is due to a violation of established admission or continuation criteria, the Office of the Director of Field Experiences will notify the student in writing of the grounds for dismissal.
- If dismissal is resulting from a school placement principal recommendation, a request to terminate the placement will be generated by the principal. The principal will send a letter to the Office of the Director of Field Experiences. This letter will convey that it is in the best interest of K-12 learners or the teacher candidate/clinical teacher/intern that the field experience be terminated. After this occurs, the Office of the Director of Field Experiences will schedule a meeting to inform the student of the decision to terminate the placement and dismiss the student.
- A formal letter of dismissal from the Educator Preparation Program will be sent from the Office of the Director of Field Experiences.

DUE PROCESS RIGHTS IN THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM

Students who wish to appeal admission or retention criteria may schedule a meeting with the Office of the Director of Field Experiences to ask that an individual exception be made. The student must follow the TAMU-CC College of Education and Human Development Due Process and Complaint Resolution Policy Procedures found on <http://education.tamucc.edu/index.html>

Signature

Print Name

A#