

## MILITARY SERVICE CONSIDERATIONS

In accordance with 19 TAC 228.35(a)(5)(A), military service members or military veterans may be eligible to receive credit for verified military service, training, clinical and professional experience, or education toward the training, education, work experience, or related requirements (other than certification examinations) for educator service requirements, which are required of all candidates for certification provided that the military service, training, or education is directly related to the certification being sought. U.S. Military Veterans may request additional credits be awarded based upon review of official documentation of military service-related training or coursework. Accepted sources of documentation include Joint Services Transcripts and American Council on Education (ACE) evaluations. Credits from accredited institutions such as the Community College of the Air Force are not reviewed under this policy. Such credits are assessed per standard transfer credit policies and procedures.

To request a review, students must complete a Military Service Credit Evaluation form in conjunction with their Academic Advisor(s) and the Chair of the academic department offering their major, and the Director of Educator Certification & Program Accountability, each of whom must approve all credit recommendations. Any requests for credits applicable toward the Core Curriculum will be subject to review and approval by the Office of the Registrar.

Effective September 1, 2015, TEA waives certain fees for eligible military service members, military veterans, and military spouses. For additional information, please see the [TEA website](#). There are some fee exemptions as well. Please see the [requirements](#) to obtain these fee exemptions.

Information regarding military service members, military spouses, and military veterans may be found in the [Texas Administrative Code 234](#).

### **Policies and Procedures (Military Considerations)**

The program and curricula have been designed to effectively prepare candidates to be successful on certification examinations and in the profession.

Any coursework credit considerations must include the following parameters, which have been developed in accordance with Texas Administrative Code (19 TAC 228.35 and 19 TAC 234) and under the discretion of the EPP, and in collaboration with the UT Tyler Office of the Registrar:

- Service, training, clinical and professional experience or education must have been received within the last five years;
- Service, training, clinical and professional experience or education must be directly related to the grade level/content area of the certification being sought;
- There must be strong evidence that any credit considerations would be a replacement for the instruction/content and that candidate performance on certification examinations or professional experiences would not be negatively impacted;

- Certification exams may not be waived or credited;
- Field-based experiences (30-hours) cannot be waived or credited unless the candidate has experiences as a long-term substitute as outlined in 19 TAC 228.25(e)(1)(C);
- An EPP may permit a full day clinical teaching assignment up to 5 full days fewer (or up to 10 half days fewer for half-day assignments) than the minimum requirement if due to military leave, based on 19 TAC 228.35(e)(2)(A)(iv); and
- An EPP may permit an internship of up to 30 school days fewer than the minimum if due to military leave, based on 19 TAC 228.35(e)(2)(B)(i).

*\*\*Additional considerations can be made for our military service members and military veterans on a case-by-case basis. Final determination will be communicated to the candidate by the Director of Educator Certification & Program Accountability.*

### **REQUEST TO SUBSTITUTE PRIOR OR ONGOING SERVICE, TRAINING, OR EDUCATION (Non-Military)**

In accordance with 19 TAC 228.35(a)(5)(B), EPPs must develop and implement specific criteria and procedures that may allow those not in military service or military veterans to substitute relevant (prior or ongoing) service, training, or education toward program requirements.

Considerations for substitution cannot include the state's requirements for certification examinations or as part of the internship or clinical teaching requirements, as mentioned in the TAC ruling.

#### **Policies and Procedures (Non-Military Considerations)**

Due to the design of the instruction and coursework, any substitutions will be rare and must meet all of the following criteria:

- Service, training or education must have been received by an approved Texas Educator Preparation Program or accredited institution of higher education within the last five years;
- Service, training, or education must be directly tied to the grade level/content area of the certification being sought;
- There must be strong evidence that any credit considerations would be a replacement for the instruction/content and that candidate performance on certification examinations or professional experiences would not be negatively impacted;
- Certification exams may not be waived or credited; and
- Field-based experiences (30-hours) cannot be waived or credited unless the candidate has experience as a long-term substitute as outlined in 19 TAC 228.25(e)(1)(C) or has completed these hours as part of a Texas EPP (completed documentation must be submitted for review).

*\*\*Additional considerations can be made on a case-by-case basis. Final determination will be communicated to the candidate by the Director of Educator Certification & Program Accountability.*