

BS IN BIOLOGY 4-8 SCIENCE CERTIFICATION

Required Admission into the Teacher Preparation Program

The Teacher Preparation Program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana is an approved educator preparation program through the Texas Education Agency (TEA). The program provides baccalaureate degrees for students pursuing teacher certification in Texas.

To become a certified Texas educator, candidates must:

- Gain admission to a TEA-approved Educator Preparation Program
- Complete all program requirements and graduate from the program
- Pass the Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TExES)

Applications are accepted twice per year:

- **Spring Semester:** Applications due in February
- **Fall Semester:** Applications due in September

Admission Requirements

General Requirements

1. **Program Application:** Submit application through the Educator Portal
2. **Academic Standing:** Maintain an overall GPA of 2.70 or higher
3. **Assessment:** Pass a screening instrument (completed during ED 311 course)
4. **Content Area Requirements:** 15 semester credit hours from the specified content area

Educators who apply for certification are required to demonstrate English language proficiency by fulfilling one of the following requirements:

1. Completion of an undergraduate or graduate degree at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States or one of its territories.
2. Verification of a minimum scaled score that falls within the High-Intermediate level in each section on the Test of English as a Foreign Language internet-Based Test (TOEFL-iBT).
3. An undergraduate or graduate degree that was earned at an institution of higher education in a country outside of the United States listed in the figure provided below.
Figure: 19 TAC §230.11(b)(5)(C) (<https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/laws-and-rules/sbec-rules-tac/sbec-tac-currently-in-effect/19-230-0011-1.pdf>)
4. A standard certificate issued by the department of education in another state where examinations for the certificate were taken and passed. Applicants must submit official test score reports along with the out-of-state standard certificate for the credentials review. EPP candidates must submit official score reports to the program.

For more information, email education@tamut.edu.

Biology w/4-8 Science Teacher Certification Degree Requirements

Students should refer to their DegreeWorks degree audit in their Web for Students account for more information regarding their degree requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
Major Requirements		
General Education Requirements (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		42
BIOL 1306	Biology for Science Majors I ⁶	3
BIOL 1106	Biology for Science Majors I Lab ⁷	1
BIOL 1307	Biology for Science Majors II ⁶	3
BIOL 1107	Biology for Science Majors II Lab ⁷	1
GEOL 1403	Physical Geology	4
BIOL 307	General Ecology	3
BIOL 308	Invertebrate Zoology	3
BIOL 310	Genetics (EL)	4
BIOL 402	Cell and Molecular Biology	4
BIOL 466	Evolutionary Biology	3
BIOL 472	Introduction to Forensic Science	3
Upper Division Biology Electives		3

Other Requirements

RDG 343	Content Area Literacy Instruction for Secondary Students	3
RDG 350	Early Literacy Development and the Science of Teaching Reading (EL)	3
MATH 1350	Fundamentals of Mathematics I ⁵	3
MATH 1351	Fundamentals of Math II	3
PHYS 1415	Physical Science I	4
PHYS 1417	Physical Science II	4
Upper Division Electives		7

Professional Development

ED 311	Growth and Development for EC-12 Grade	3
ED 321	Secondary School Methods	3

Block 1

ED 331	Classroom and Behavior Management ⁹	3
ED 495	Clinical Experience I ⁹	3

Block 2

ED 496	Clinical Experience II ¹⁰	3
SPED 418	Inclusion of Students with High Support Needs in the Content Areas ¹⁰	3

Minimum grade of "C" required for all Major and Professional Development courses.

Electives (as needed to satisfy minimum degree requirements including 54 semester credit hours of upper division)

Minimum Hours for Degree	120
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⁵ has a prerequisite of MATH 1314 (<http://catalog.tamut.edu/search/?P=MATH%201314>)

⁶ Satisfies core curriculum

⁷ May satisfy core curriculum in Components Area Option

⁸ Requires Admission to Teacher Prep Program

⁹ Requires successful placement interview with a partnership public school district

¹⁰ Requires passing all TExES exams

Note: A minimum of 54 upper division hours (300 and 400 level courses) are required for this degree. Resident credit totaling 25% of the hours is required for the degree. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in three areas for graduation: Overall GPA, Institutional GPA, and Major GPA.

Biology 4-8 Science Certification 4 Year Plan

First Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 1301	Composition I ^{requires minimum grade of 'C', Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
BIOL 1306	Biology for Science Majors I ^{requires minimum grade of 'C', Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
BIOL 1106	Biology for Science Majors I Lab ^{requires minimum grade of 'C', Satisfies Core Curriculum}	1
HIST 1301	United States History I ^{Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
MATH 1314	College Algebra ^{Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
UNIV 1100	University Foundations	1
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		17
Spring		Semester Credit Hours
ENGL 1302	Composition II ^{Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
BIOL 1307	Biology for Science Majors II ^{requires minimum grade of 'C', Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
BIOL 1107	Biology for Science Majors II Lab ^{requires minimum grade of 'C', satisfies Core Curriculum}	1
SPCH 1315	Public Speaking ^{Satisfies Core Curriculum}	3
or COMM 1307	Introduction to Mass Communication	
Language, Philosophy and Culture Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3

HIST 1302	United States History II	Satisfies Core Curriculum	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours			16
Total First Year Semester Credit Hours			33

Second Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		Semester Credit Hours
PHYS 1415	Physical Science I	4
PSCI 2305	U.S. Government and Politics	3
MATH 1350	Fundamentals of Mathematics I	3
Social and Behavioral Science Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3
Creative Arts Core Curriculum Requirement (http://catalog.tamut.edu/academic-information/university-core-curriculum/)		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring		Semester Credit Hours
PHYS 1417	Physical Science II	4
MATH 1351	Fundamentals of Math II	3
PSCI 2306	State and Local Government	3
GEOL 1403	Physical Geology ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	4
Upper Division Biology Elective (300-400 level) ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}		3-4
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		17-18
Total Second Year Semester Credit Hours		33-34

Third Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		Semester Credit Hours
ED 311	Growth and Development for EC-12 Grade ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3
BIOL 307	General Ecology ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3
BIOL 402	Cell and Molecular Biology ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	4
BIOL 466	Evolutionary Biology ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3
Electives as needed to satisfy minimum degree requirements including 54 semester credit hours of upper division coursework or total semester credit hours		2-3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15-16
Spring		Semester Credit Hours
ED 321	Secondary School Methods ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3
BIOL 308	Invertebrate Zoology ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3
BIOL 310	Genetics (EL) ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	4
RDG 350	Early Literacy Development and the Science of Teaching Reading (EL) ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 level) ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}		3-4
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		16-17
Summer		Semester Credit Hours
RDG 343	Content Area Literacy Instruction for Secondary Students ^{requires minimum grade of 'C'}	3

Summer Total Semester Credit Hours	3
Total Third Year Semester Credit Hours	34-35

Fourth Year

Code	Title	Hours
Fall		Semester Credit Hours
ED 495	Clinical Experience I <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
ED 331	Classroom and Behavior Management <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
BIOL 472	Introduction to Forensic Science <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Upper Division Elective (300-400 level) <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>		3-4
Elective - Upper or Lower Division as needed to meet upper division and overall requirement <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>		3
Fall Total Semester Credit Hours		15-16
Spring		Semester Credit Hours
ED 496	Clinical Experience II <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
SPED 418	Inclusion of Students with High Support Needs in the Content Areas <small>requires minimum grade of 'C'</small>	3
Spring Total Semester Credit Hours		6
Total Fourth Year Semester Credit Hours		21
		120

Minimum Grade of "C" is required in all Major, ED, RDG, SPED, and Professional Development course

Note: A minimum of 54 upper division hours (300 and 400 level courses) are required for this degree. Resident credit totaling 25% of the hours is required for the degree. A minimum GPA of 2.0 is required in three areas for graduation: Overall GPA, Institutional GPA, and Major GPA.