



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

LAMAR UNIVERSITY

Candidate Exit Policy

All individuals who apply for admission to the Lamar University Educator Preparation Program (EPP) in the College of Education & Human Development must be able to demonstrate essential abilities and dispositions. In addition to these essential abilities and dispositions, all candidates for recommendation to the State of Texas for certification are expected to demonstrate that they are prepared to work with children and youth. This preparation results from the successful completion of university coursework and demonstrating professionalism, ethical behavior and other characteristics and behaviors adopted as standards for these professions.

The rules in 19 TAC Chapter 228, Requirements for Educator Preparation Programs, establish the requirements for educator preparation programs in the preparation of candidates for Texas educator certification. The state of Texas requires all educator preparation programs to have an exit policy for the dismissal of candidates that is published, reviewed, and signed by candidates when they are admitted to the program. See 19 TAC §228.31(b)(approved February 16, 2024, to be effective September 1, 2024).

An educator candidate may be dismissed from the EPP in the event they demonstrate behavior not consistent with the professional and ethical expectations of an educator in Texas. A candidate's dismissal from the EPP may be based on various grounds including but not limited to:

1. Failure to meet coursework requirements and/or program milestones.
2. Failure to demonstrate appropriate, consistent matriculation.
3. Failure to demonstrate adequate level of professional or personal competency after an attempt at remediation.
4. Failure to abide by requirements established by Lamar University and/or the program requirements established by EEP or by the State Board for Educator Certification as published in the Texas Administrative Code.
5. Failure to communicate effectively with university faculty, field supervisor or mentor teacher to fulfill requirements related to field experiences, clinical teaching, practicum and internships (i.e. contacting field supervisor for scheduling formal observations) after an attempt at remediation.
6. Any action deemed a violation of the Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators. after an attempt at remediation
7. Any action deemed a violation of the Lamar University Student Code of Conduct.
8. Having been charged or convicted of a criminal offense.
9. Any action deemed a violation of school district and/or campus policy during the field-based experiences, clinical teaching, residency, practicum or internship.
10. Suspension or expulsion from Lamar University or dismissal from the EPP.

The foregoing is not an exhaustive list of reasons upon which a dismissal decision may be based. In addition, candidates must adhere to the following criteria or will be placed on academic probation, suspension, dismissal, or termination from the program:

- Maintain Required GPA of 2.75 for undergraduate and 3.0 graduate programs
- Earn a grade of C or better in all coursework
- Pass criminal history check at application and prior to clinical teaching, residency, or internship (Initial Certification only)
- Adhere to the Texas Educator Code of Ethics



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- Not have more than one Professional Concerns referral
- Have a record of successful dispositions assessment results
- Successfully meet all benchmarks for progression through the program
- Successfully meet all published certification testing requirements
- Successfully meet all residency/clinical teaching/internship and/or practicum requirements
- Continuous enrollment in the program is required. If a candidate does not enroll in coursework for longer than one academic year, they will need to reapply to the university and the EPP.

Inactive Candidates Exit Policy

An inactive candidate is one who is no longer completing coursework, training, and testing requirements with an EPP and is not a completer of the EPP.

After one academic year (two long regular semester terms) of inactivity, candidates enrolled in the EPP will be consider inactive and will need to reapply to the university and the EPP. Applicants must follow university policy for readmission and then apply for readmission to the EPP. After 6 years of inactivity, students will be removed from the EPP “other enrolled” list. Students will need to re-take and/or re-certify courses at the discretion of the department and depending on content and certification changes at the time of re-admission.

Typed Candidate Name

Date