

Office of Educator Preparation

From: Office of Educator Preparation
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 3:25 PM
Subject: Certification Date Clarifications for STR affected students

Importance: High

Hello,

This notification is a follow up from the prior email sent on **November 11, 2020 (Link)**. The email applied to all students that will be certified in a certification category impacted by the new Science of Teaching certification requirement which starts on January 1, 2021. We have received some phone calls about the recommendations from the email and would like to clarify some next steps.

If you would like to be certified and not have to take the new STR exam for certification, you must be certified by December 31st. However, due to the University winter break schedule and the process for our office to complete a recommendation, OEP has imposed a December 15th deadline. To meet the deadline of December 15th for our office to work on recommending you for certification, please start on the following steps:

1. Apply for certification with the TEA today. This means applying for standard certification, paying the fee for the application, and paying for fingerprinting if it is necessary with the TEA. The TEAL Login is: <https://tealprod.tea.state.tx.us/> please follow the instructions for standard certification here: <https://www.education.txstate.edu/oep/current/initial-certification/certificate-issuance/application.html>
2. Schedule and complete your fingerprinting appointment prior to December 15, 2020. A recommendation by Texas State University will not be effective if you have not completed the fingerprinting or payment requirements. Information on TEA fingerprinting requirements is here: <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-educators/investigations/fingerprinting/fingerprinting-and-registry-for-schools>
3. Be sure you have taken and passed the PPR and Content exam(s) **on or before December 15, 2020** as required for your certification. (If you are in the EC-6 bilingual program, this means the bilingual exams as well.)

OEP is working with the Texas State University registrar to have a degree post in mid-December for those students affected by the STR requirement. This will allow our certification officer to process your recommendation.

If you have not met these date requirements, you will be required to take the Science of Teaching Reading exam to be certified in your field. There will be no exceptions to the legislative rule set in HB3. Please reach out to our office if you have additional questions.

Best,

Office of Educator Preparation
Texas State University
Email: oepe@txstate.edu
[Testing \(Certification Exams\)](#)