



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
CENTRAL TEXAS™

Texas A&M University – Central Texas

School Counseling Program Attestation

Intent to Pursue School Counselor Certification Preparation Program

My signature below acknowledges that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the ethical standards listed below. I verify that I meet the criteria listed below and declare my Intent to pursue School Counselor Certification Preparation:

1. I verify that I have read and understood the [Texas Educator Code of Ethics](#) and the [ASCA Ethical Standards](#).
2. I have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education that was at the time accredited or approved by an accrediting organization recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.
3. I understand that a criminal history background check is not required for admittance into a certification program at A&M - Central Texas. However, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) requires background checks at several points as candidates progress through the Educator Preparation Program. Additionally, a check will be conducted prior to issuance of a standard certificate. Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code 249.16, a candidate may be ineligible for issuance of a certificate upon completion of the Educator Preparation Program due to offenses considered to relate directly to the duties and responsibilities of the education profession.
4. Texas Administrative Code (TAC) 227.101c) states that a person who is enrolled or planning to enroll in a State Board of Educator Certification-approved educator preparation program or planning to take a certification examination may request a preliminary criminal history evaluation letter regarding the person's potential ineligibility for certification due to a conviction



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or deferred adjudication for a felony or misdemeanor offense. For more information about the Preliminary Criminal History Evaluation, go to the link: https://tea.texas.gov/Texas_Educators/Investigations/Preliminary_Criminal_History_Evaluation-FAQs

5. Field based experiences are required during the program. A candidate may also undergo a school district / campus criminal history check if the candidate is not employed by the district.

6. I understand that I must disclose prior educator preparation program admission information to the school counseling program coordinator and that if it is found that I was not in good academic standing in that program, my acceptance into the school counseling program may be denied or terminated.

7. I understand that if I take any of the following courses, as a conditionally admitted student or as a fully admitted student in the MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, that they **will not count towards certification preparation requirements** until I have been admitted into the School Counselor Certification Preparation Program:

1. COUN 5351 Career & Guidance,
2. COUN 5352 Foundations of Professional School Counseling,
3. COUN 5353 Theories of Counseling,
4. COUN 5354 Group Procedure for Counselors,
5. COUN 5357 Methods and Practices in Counseling,
6. COUN 5311 Multicultural Counseling,
7. COUN 5381 Assessment & Evaluation Fundamentals, &
8. COUN 5386 Clinical Mental Health Internship.
8. I understand that **I will be required to retake** any of the courses listed above if taken prior to admittance into the School Counselor Certification Preparation Program



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9. I understand that I must submit a Letter of Continued Employment to the School Counseling Program Coordinator if I do not have two years of teaching experience as shown on my Service Record.

10. I understand the following program completion and certification steps:
 - a. Successful completion of School Counselor Preparation Program.
 - b. Degree conferred
 - c. Candidate requests official service record demonstrating two creditable years of teaching experience from school district Human Resources office (if not completed at time of application)
 - d. Candidate successfully completes the most current TExES exam: http://www.tx.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/TX252_TestPage.html
 - e. Candidate creates a TEA/TEAL account and applies for standard principal certification. Notify "CT Educator Prep" when this step is complete.
 - f. Candidate is recommended for standard School Counselor certification.

11. I understand that I must complete the following in TEA Field Practicum:
 - a. 160 hours during COUN 5386 Internship in Counseling. These hours may overlap with the 600 hour CACREP requirement.
 - b. Completion of formal observations following current TEA guidelines
 - c. Field Supervisor and Site Supervisor Recommendation



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SCHOOL COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM ATTESTATION

As a student in the program, I acknowledge that I am being prepared for the School Counselor certificate by the Texas A&M University - Central Texas (TAMUCT) School Counselor Certification Preparation Program (SCCPP), an Educator Preparation Program (EPP).

My signature below acknowledges that I have read and understood this document. I shall —

1. remain professional with School Counselor Certification Preparation Program (SCCPP) faculty and EPP staff at all times.
2. adhere to program policies within TEA guidelines as established by the program including, but not limited to: i. ensure that I am prepared to receive a standard School Counselor certificate, SCCPP shall establish benchmarks and structured assessments to track my progress and ensure that I am adequately prepared to pass the appropriate content exams required for certification. ii. SCCPP shall determine my readiness to take the appropriate certification exams based the EPP's data-informed protocols. iii. I understand that the SCCPP evaluates the design and delivery of components based on performance data and research practices and uses these data to continuously improve the program, which may result in changes to certification exam approval policy at any time. iv. SCCPP retains documents showing evidence of my eligibility for admission to the program and evidence of completion of program requirements for a period of five (5) years after I complete, withdraw from, or am discharged or released from the program.
3. adhere to the plans established by SCCPP faculty and EPP staff to ensure completion of program requirements; I will not exceed



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established timelines established to acquire the School Counselor certificate.

4. if applicable, attend prescribed courses/trainings as required by TEA for certificate issuance.
5. participate in a comprehensive, practice examination for school counselor 252 exam.
 - a. In preparation for the 252 School Counselor Exam, complete a portfolio includes assignments consistent with School Counselor 252 Learner Standards I-VI
 - b. acquire a minimum 80% on a school counselor comprehensive, practice examination
6. develop and maintain self-established timelines to be successful in submitting and passing the School Counselor 252 exam.
7. notify SCCPP coordinator and EPP staff if I voluntary withdrawal from the program.
 - a. If I am inactive from the TAMUCT coursework for greater than 12 months, I will be removed from the EPP as a School Counselor candidate and will no longer have TExES School Counselor exam eligibilities.
 - b. If I am removed from the EPP, I will be required to reapply to continue in the program and I understand that policies in effect at the time of reapplication will apply to the new admission.