

Texas Educator Certification Program Transition Important Information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Beginning September 1, 2018, management of the Texas educator certification examinations will transition from ETS to a new vendor, Pearson. The Important Information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) that follow were developed to provide educator candidates and Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) critical information regarding the vendor transition activities. This document will be updated as more information becomes available.

Important Information for EPPs and Candidates

Transition Contact Information

ETS: Texas Educator Certification Program candidates will continue to use the [ETS website](#) to access preparation materials, register to test, and access their exam scores for tests taken through August 31, 2018. Limited Customer Service staff will be available through September 14 to assist candidates with questions related to testing activities that took place through August 31. Candidates can contact ETS Customer Service at 1-800-205-2626 or texes-excet_inquiries@ets.org. EPPs will be able to contact ETS via EPPAdmin@ets.org through August 31.

Pearson: Candidates who will be testing after September 1, 2018, should visit the Pearson website at www.tx.nesinc.com. All program policies and procedures, as well as the registration system and online reporting tool, will be available on September 1, 2018.

TEA: For more information about Texas educator certification requirements, visit the Texas Education Agency (TEA) Certification information [website](#).

Educator Certification Examination Retake Limit Change

Candidates are limited to a total of 5 attempts to pass a certification examination under [Texas Education Code §21.048](#). A subsection of the law, which currently counts all attempts of the same examination taken before September 1, 2015 as only one attempt, is set to expire. **Beginning September 1, 2018, all attempts of the same examination, no matter when they occurred, will count toward the five-attempt testing limit regardless of the date of the first attempt for the examination.**

Candidates, educators, and others who took certification examinations before September 1, 2015 and have not yet passed those examinations will find more information in the [candidate guidance document](#). Testers impacted by the change must take their examination(s) by August 31, 2018 if the new test attempt counting method will make them ineligible on September 1, 2018. Candidates who reach the five-time testing limit must apply for a test-limit waiver to retest.

If you choose to register again for the same test after completion of the fifth attempt, your scores will not be counted towards certification and you will assume responsibility for test fees paid.

Note: Individuals who tested after September 1, 2015 are not affected by the change since all examination attempts have always been included in the attempt count for these candidates.

Principal Certification Redesign

The TEA is in the process of redesigning the Texas principal certification standards and corresponding tests. For more information, visit the [Principal Certification Redesign homepage](#).

PASL Assessment

Beginning in 2019, candidates who wish to obtain a standard principal certification will be required to successfully complete the Performance Assessment for School Leaders (PASL). PASL will become operational in the fall of 2019, with registration opening in summer 2019. PASL will be administered twice a year with submissions due in the fall and spring. More information about the PASL may be found at <https://www.ets.org/ppa/test-takers/school-leaders/about>. For more information, visit the [Principal Certification Redesign homepage](#).

FAQs for Candidates

Testing Before September 1, 2018

I'm currently registered to test. Do I need to reschedule?

No. If you currently have an exam appointment scheduled before September 1, you do not need to make any changes to your registration. If you have an exam appointment scheduled before this date and wish to reschedule to sometime after September 1, you must cancel your registration. Before you cancel your exam, review the *Canceling a Test Registration* policy in the [2017–18 Registration Bulletin](#).

What if I need to test before September 1, 2018?

If you are eligible and wish to test through August 31, you must register by August 29. You can register for most exams and access score reports for exams taken prior to September 1 through your ETS testing account at www.texas.ets.org.

What if I need to receive my scores before September 1, 2018?

If you need to receive your score report(s) before September 1, you should register and schedule your exam appointments through your ETS testing account at www.texas.ets.org. **Note:** Scores will report on September 4 for exams taken August 30–31.

Where can I access exam preparation materials?

Preparation materials for TExES™, TExMaT™, and TASC™/TASC-ASL™ examinations administered before September 1 are available in Test Preparation Resources at www.texas.ets.org. For more information on preparing for exams after September 1, 2018, please review the *How can I prepare for exams being administered after September 1, 2018?* FAQ below.

How will I receive my score report?

If you test prior to September 1, your score report will be available in your ETS testing account at www.texas.ets.org. Access to your scores administered through ETS will be available via your testing account through September 28, 2018. **Please note all other services will be disabled on August 31.**

I would like to request the score review service. How will I request this service during the transition?

If you would like to request the score review service for your June 2018 paper-based (TExES Braille and TExMaT) and computer-administered (BTLPT, LOTEs and ELAR 7-12) administrations, you will process those requests through ETS. Requests must be submitted online or received within three months of the test date. You should review the score review policies found in the [Registration Bulletin](#) prior to requesting this service.

If you would like to request the score review service for your July computer-administered (BTLPT, LOTEs and ELAR 7-12) administration, you will request the service through Pearson. Requests can be made on September 1 when the Pearson registration and scheduling system becomes available. All program policies and procedures will be published to the Pearson website on September 1 at www.tx.nesinc.com.

Testing After September 1, 2018

Where can I find the 2018-19 testing schedule?

The [test schedule](#) for the 2018-19 testing year can be found on the Pearson website at www.tx.nesinc.com.

How do I register for exams after September 1, 2018?

Registration and scheduling will open on September 1. Further information can be found on the [Pearson website](#).

All TExES and TExMaT examinations will be administered on computer. TASC and TASC-ASL examinations will continue to be administered in an interview format.

When and where can I test after September 1, 2018?

Most exams will be available year-round, by appointment, Monday through Saturday, excluding holidays. Certain exams will be available during specific weeks offered periodically. The [test schedule](#) for the 2018-19 testing year can be found on the [Pearson website](#).

Exams will be administered at testing centers located within Texas, throughout the United States and internationally.

I have tested previously and will be taking another Texas educator certification exam after September 1, 2018. Will I need to create a new account?

Your existing TEA ECOS/TEAL account and TEA ID number will not change. If you plan to test after September 1, you must create a new testing account through the [Pearson website](#). Registration opens on September 1, and you will be able to create an account at that time.

I am planning to take the TExES Principal exam later this year. What impact will this transition have on me?

The Principal (068) exam is currently being administered and will eventually be replaced by a new Principal (268) exam. You can read more about the new exam on the TEA's Principal Certification Redesign [webpage](#).

I need to retake an exam I did not pass. Can I retake the exam after September 1, 2018?

Yes, if you have not yet reached the retake limit. Candidates are limited to a total of five attempts to pass a certification exam under [Texas Education Code § section21.048](#).

- **If you tested prior to September 1, 2015.** A subsection of the law, which currently counts all attempts of the same exam taken before September 1, 2015, as only one attempt, is set to expire. Beginning September 1, 2018, all attempts of the same exam will count toward the five-attempt testing limit regardless of when the exam was first attempted.
- **If your prior exam attempts all occurred after September 1, 2015.** Each attempt counts toward the five-attempt limit.

More information about the retake rule is available on the TEA's Educator Testing [webpage](#) under Testing Announcements and Updates.

How can I prepare for exams being administered after September 1, 2018?

You can use the preparation manuals and practice exams available in Test Preparation Resources at www.texas.ets.org. However, please note that the current exam functionality described in the tutorials and exam familiarization videos may vary from the exams administered after September 1.

Exam preparation materials will be available beginning September 1 on the [Pearson website](#).

Where will I access my prior testing history and scores after September 1, 2018?

If you have previously tested, you will be able to access your testing history through your Pearson account at www.tx.nesinc.com, as well as results of exams taken from September 1, 2006, to the present. You will also be able to access your ETS Testing Account for some services at www.texas.ets.org through September 28, 2018.

FAQs for EPPs

Where can I find the 2018-19 testing schedule?

The [test schedule](#) for the 2018-19 testing year can be found on the Pearson website at www.tx.nesinc.com.

Where will I access EPP resources after September 1, 2018?

EPPs will be able to access resources through the EPP section on the [Pearson website](#) beginning September 1. EPP resources are currently available on the ETS website at www.texas.ets.org.

Can EPPs continue to use Representative Tests purchased before September 1, 2018?

Yes. EPPs can still use the Representative Tests that are currently available.

How do EPPs order Representative Tests after September 1, 2018?

Entities that meet TEA-specified requirements will be able to order Representative Tests at www.tx.nesinc.com. More information about purchasing Representative Tests will be posted on the Pearson website as it becomes available.

How will EPPs access their program's score-reporting data after September 1, 2018?

After September 1, authorized EPP users will have access to an online reporting tool where they can view, analyze, reorganize, download, and print reports based on exam results data from September 1, 2006, to the present.

EPPs will also be able to access their program's data through August 31, 2018 in the ETS Data Manager tool via their [account](#) through September 28, 2018.

How will EPPs participate in the Title II pass rate reporting processes for the upcoming Title II reporting year?

Beginning in fall 2018, EPPs will work with Pearson on Title II data collection and reporting activities via a secure web-based system. More information will be distributed to EPPs after September 1.