



Alternative-South Texas Education Program

Pre-Service Teacher Application

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name: _____ Gender: ____ M or F ____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Social Security Number _____ Email Address: _____

Check one please: U.S. Citizen? Y ____ or N ____ If No, are you authorized to work in the U.S.? Y ____ or N ____

How did you hear about us? (circle one)

Referral

Internet

Billboards

Newspaper

Job Fair

TEA

RACIAL CATEGORY

Hispanic or Latino Defined A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish Culture or origin regardless of race.

Designate your ethnicity as:

- ☐ Hispanic or Latino; or
- ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Identify Race: indicate one or more races that apply from among the following:

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ White

Race Categories Defined

American Indian or Alaska Native A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Black or African American A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

White A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.



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EDUCATION BACKGROUND

List colleges and universities attended:

Institution	Country	Dates Attended	Degree Conferred	Major
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

CERTIFICATION

What certification are you applying for? _____

Have you ever been enrolled in a teacher preparation program? *(circle one)* Yes or No:

If yes, name of program? _____

REFERENCES

Please provide three (3) professional and/or personal references that we may contact

Name	Title	Employed by	Relationship	Phone Number
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

All applicants must provide the following in order to complete their application.

For U.S. Applicants

All transcripts and certificates

For Non-U.S. Applicants

Teacher-candidates who come from a country or university where English was not the language of instruction must pass the TOEFL. Passing scores are: 230 on the computer based exam, 570 on the paper based exam and 88 Internet Based Test (iBT) (with a minimum score of 26 in speaking).

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REQUIRED WRITING SAMPLE

In your own handwriting, please tell us why you have decided to enter the teaching profession.



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NOTICE OF MANDATORY ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

NOTICE to Applicants and Students

1. As a condition to applying for admission to the Program, and, if accepted into the Program, and as a condition of remaining in the Program, the Alternative South Texas Educator Program (A-STEP) and you as applicant, student, or both, agree that any and all disputes, controversies or claims related to the relationship between the parties, the rendering of services by A-STEP, its evaluation of student performances, and the interpretation or performance hereunder, will be submitted to alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, arbitration, or both.
2. Any disputes shall be submitted for resolution pursuant to the Rio Services Alternative Dispute Resolution Program for Commercial Disputes ("ADR Program"), which, among other things, is established pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act. Arbitration is administered by the American Arbitration Association, and is conducted by a single arbitrator who is knowledgeable in the subject matter of the dispute.
3. The ADR Program provides that any and all disputes shall be submitted 1) to informal discussions regarding dispute resolution, then, if not resolved, 2) to mediation, and, then, if such dispute is not resolved thereby, 3) to final and binding arbitration pursuant to the applicable rules of the American Arbitration Association. 4. Signing this application is your agreement and acceptance of the ADR Program. By signing or submitting this application, accepting services from A-STEP, or both, you agree to the terms and conditions of the ADR Program. You may obtain copies of the ADR Program document, and related documents from ASTEP or Rio Services (Rio Services: 956.761.2289 or 800.891.4554; fax: 800.891.4566).

AFFIRMATION

- I affirm that all of the information I have provided for this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I understand that acceptance into A-STEP based on any false or incomplete information is cause for immediate dismissal from the A-STEP.
- I am fully aware that if accepted into the program, I will undergo pre-service training and test preparation however this does not constitute a guarantee of employment by any school district.
- I hereby authorize A-STEP to release application information for employment purposes to inquiring school districts.
- I also authorize A-STEP to obtain from law enforcement agencies any existing criminal history records pertaining to my application.
- I understand this application does in no way constitute a contract of any kind, except as to our agreement regarding alternative dispute resolution as stated in part #6, above.
- I affirm that I have read and understood the contents of this application.

Legal and criminal background records check: The State of Texas, as well as school districts, will conduct a background check before you are certified and allowed to teach. Any negative legal history, as they interpret and define it, may/will jeopardize your ability to teach and/or be employed.

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Alternative-South Texas Education Program

FERPA Consent to Release Educational Records and Information

This release represents your written consent to permit Alternative-South Texas Educator Program to disclose educational records and any information contained therein to the specific individual(s) identified below. Please read this document carefully and fill in all blanks.

I, _____ [print full name] am a candidate at **Alternative-South Texas Educator Program ("A-STEP")** and hereby give my voluntary consent to officials:

A. To disclose the following records:

- Records relating to any of my field-based experiences
- Records relating to my performance in the field
- TExES test scores

B. To the following person(s):

- School districts or other agencies associated with field-based experiences
- School-based/Agency-based administrators
- School-based/Agency-based cooperating teachers/mentors
- Program faculty

C. These records are being released for the purpose of:

- Conversing and reviewing performance
- Acquiring feedback
- Procuring required signatures

I understand that under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 ("FERPA" 20 USC 123g; 34 CFR §99; commonly known as the "Buckley Amendment") no disclosure of my records can be made without my written consent unless otherwise provided for in legal statutes and judicial decisions. I also understand that I may revoke this consent at any time (via written request to the educator preparation program) except to the extent that action has already been taken upon this release. Further, without such a release, I am unable to participate in any field-based experiences including 30 clock hours of observation, clinical teaching, student teaching, or internship.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Candidate's TEA ID Number: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Student Contact Information:

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____



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PSTA Candidate Interview Questions

1. Why did you decide to become a teacher? Why do you want to teach?
2. Why do you think you would make a good teacher?
3. Do you have any experience working with students?
4. Are you interested in teaching at the elementary, middle or at the secondary level?
5. What led you to choose your major or field of study? How do you think that major or career prepares you for the classroom/teaching profession?
6. What are your strengths, weaknesses and interests?
7. What are your short-range goals and objectives? Long-term goals and objectives?
8. Describe a situation in which you worked as part of a team. What role did you take on? What went well and what didn't?
9. Do you like to be challenged? Please elaborate.