Text of Proposed New 19 TAC

Chapter 231. Requirements for Public School Personnel Assignments

Subchapter F. Special Education-Related Services Personnel Assignments

§231.611. Special Education Teacher.

(a) Subject to the requirements in subsection (c) of this section, an assignment for Special Education Teacher is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(1) Blind School (Texas State School for the Blind and Visually Impaired only).

(2) Deaf and Severely Hard of Hearing.

(3) Deaf School (Texas State School for the Deaf only).

(4) Deaf-Blind.

(5) Deficient Vision.

(6) Early Childhood Education for Handicapped Children (Infants-Grade 6 only).

(7) Elementary Generic Special Education.

(8) Emotionally Disturbed.

(9) Generic Special Education.

(10) Hearing Impaired.

(11) High School--Generic Special Education.

(12) Language and/or Learning Disabilities.

(13) Mentally Retarded.

(14) Physically Handicapped.

(15) School Speech-Language Pathologist.

(16) Secondary Generic Special Education (Grades 6-12) (Grades 6-12 only).

(17) Severely and Profoundly Handicapped.

(18) Severely Emotionally Disturbed and Autistic.

(19) Special Education Supplemental (Valid at grade level and subject area of the base certificate).

(20) Special Education: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(21) Speech and Hearing Therapy.

(22) Speech and Language Therapy.

(23) Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(24) Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(25) Visually Handicapped.

(b) The certificates specified in subsection (a) of this section are appropriate for a special education assignment in Prekindergarten-Grade 12 except where otherwise noted.

(c) The employing school district should make every effort to secure educators trained in the specialized skills and knowledge needed to serve the special needs of the children. If a staff member does not have the skills and knowledge needed for the assignment, the school district is responsible for making provisions for the person to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge.

§231.613. Teacher of Adaptive Physical Education.

(a) An assignment for Teacher of Adaptive Physical Education is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(1) All-Level Health and Physical Education.

(2) All-Level Physical Education.

(3) Elementary Physical Education (Grades 1-8) (Grades 1-8 only).

(4) Grades 6-8--Physical Education (Grades 6-8 only).

(5) Physical Education: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(6) Secondary Physical Education (Grades 6-12) (Grades 6-12 only).

(7) Special education certificate as specified in §231.611 of this title (relating to Special Education Teacher). This assignment requires necessary skills and knowledge in adaptive physical education. Evidence of necessary skills and knowledge in adaptive physical education must be documented through in-service records, seminar attendance records, or transcripts of college courses.

(b) Other licensed professionals may be eligible to provide adaptive physical education services to students with disabilities under the scope of practice of the specific license held.

§231.615. Full-Time Teacher of Orthopedically Impaired or Other Health Impaired in a Hospital Class or Home-Based Instruction.

An assignment for Full-Time Teacher of Orthopedically Impaired or Other Health Impaired in a Hospital Class or Home-Based Instruction is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(1) Special education certificate as specified in §231.611 of this title (relating to Special Education Teacher).

(2) Teacher certificate. This assignment requires a three semester credit hour survey course in special education and three semester credit hour course related to teaching students who are physically impaired or health impaired.

§231.617. Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments.

(a) An assignment for Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(1) Deficient Vision.

(2) Visually Handicapped.

(3) Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments Supplemental: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(b) A teacher in an assignment for Teacher of Students with Visual Impairment must be available to students with visual impairments.

§231.619. Teacher of Students with Auditory Impairments.

(a) Effective July 1, 2015, all teachers who hold the Deaf and Severely Hard of Hearing, Hearing Impaired, or Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Early Childhood-Grade 12 certificates must have passed the Texas Assessment of Sign Communication (TASC) or the Texas Assessment of Sign Communication-American Sign Language (TASC-ASL) before they may be assigned to teach in a classroom in which sign communication is the predominate communication method used.

(b) An assignment for Teacher of Students with Auditory Impairments is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(1) Deaf and Severely Hard of Hearing.

(2) Hearing Impaired.

(3) Teacher of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Early Childhood-Grade 12.

(c) A teacher in an assignment for Teacher of Students with Auditory Impairments must be available to students with auditory impairments.

(d) A teacher in an assignment for Teacher of Students with Auditory Impairments is not required to pass the TASC or the TASC-ASL in order to be assigned to a classroom in which another communication method is used predominately. If this teacher completes certification requirements through a State Board for Educator Certification-approved educator preparation program in Texas, the program must have assessed proficiency in the communication method and verified it to be at an appropriate level.

§231.621. Teacher of Gifted and Talented Students.

(a) An assignment for Teacher of Gifted and Talented Students is allowed with one of the following.

(1) A teacher certificate that matches the subject and grade level of the assignment.

(2) Gifted and Talented Endorsement (Not required for assignment).

(3) Gifted and Talented Supplemental (Not required for assignment).

(b) In addition to the requirements specified in this subchapter, individuals assigned to a gifted and talented program must comply with the provisions of Chapter 89, Subchapter A, of this title (relating to Gifted/Talented Education).

§231.623. Special Education Counseling Services; Educational Diagnostician; Speech Therapy Services; and Vocational Adjustment Coordinator.

(a) Special Education Counseling Services.

(1) An assignment for Special Education Counseling Services is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(A) Counselor.

(B) School Counselor (Early Childhood-Grade 12).

(C) Special Education Counselor.

(D) Special Education Visiting Teacher.

(2) Individuals certified or licensed to practice in other professions may be eligible to provide counseling services for students with disabilities under the scope of practice of the specific license held.

(b) Educational Diagnostician.

(1) An assignment for Educational Diagnostician is allowed with an Educational Diagnostician certificate.

(2) Individuals certified or licensed to practice in other professions may be eligible to provide evaluative services for students with disabilities under the scope of practice of the specific license held.

(c) Speech Therapy Services.

(1) An assignment for Speech Therapy Services is allowed with one of the following certificates.

(A) School Speech-Language Pathologist.

(B) Speech and Hearing Therapy.

(C) Speech and Language Therapy.

(2) Effective September 1, 2013, individuals who hold a Speech and Hearing Therapy or a Speech and Language Therapy certificate must have a master's degree.

(3) Individuals licensed by the State Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology and Audiology also may provide speech therapy services to eligible students under the scope of practice of the specific license held.

(d) Vocational Adjustment Coordinator.

(1) An assignment for Vocational Adjustment Coordinator is allowed with a Special Education certificate. This assignment requires 60 clock-hours of training appropriate for the assignment.

(2) A teacher in an assignment for Vocational Adjustment Coordinator will have three years from the date of assignment to complete the required training.