UH Teacher Education Program: A Map for Students

Students, welcome! You are on an exciting, important journey to become a teacher. Our professors and staff at the University of Houston will guide you along the way.

Before Pre-Teaching: Start Here!
Your first two years of college (whether you start at UH or community college)
• You mostly take core courses (e.g. English, math).
• Talk to your college advisor for early guidance if you plan to pursue the Bilingual EC-6 or ESL/SPED EC-6 Supplemental plans.

Pre-Teaching Formal Admissions
• Submit the Teacher Education Application, which includes ethics training and an admissions video interview.
  • 2.5 content GPA, 2.5 cumulative GPA
  • 12 content hours in certification area sought (4-8 science and 4-8 math students must complete 15 hours of content)
• Receive admissions letter + YOU MUST ACCEPT IT! → You’ll receive section numbers for your PT courses.

Developing Teaching: Your Preparation Increases!
Typically second semester of junior year
• Field experience requirements: 40 hours in one school (more involved than PT observations, including small group, one-on-one instruction, other teacher duties). Student selects district preferences from pre-determined list, and district selects school.
• Apply for Student Teaching approval.
• End of DT: Attend Student Teaching Orientation.

Student Teaching Approval
• Completed Student Teaching application (PT placement request survey)
• Completed field experiences
• Passing score on the writing assessment (not just taken)
• Minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA
• Completed all coursework prior to ST1
• State-mandated trainings: dyslexia, mental health, youth suicide prevention
• Approval and acknowledgement forms + YOU MUST SIGN! → You’ll receive section numbers for your ST courses.

Developing Teaching: Your Real Journey Begins!
Typically first semester of junior year
• Start of the semester: Attend Pre-Teaching Orientation.
• Take the writing assessment.
• End of semester: Attend Developing Teaching Orientation.
Field experience requirements will be discussed.

Student Teaching I + ST2: You Get to Teach!
Typically senior year
• Two-semester commitment. Students are in class or in the field Monday through Friday. It is recommended that students don’t work another outside job.
• ST placement: Student prefers district from pre-determined list, and district selects school and grade level. Placements will last full year.
• To advance through the program, students must meet “performance gates” for both teaching practice and professionalism.
• For Certification:
  • Take and pass certification exams (typically in ST1 & ST2).
  • Apply for certification (typically in ST2).
  • Graduate and get approved for certification.
Congratulations — you’re a Texas-certified teacher!

ST1
Student Teaching first semester
ST2
Student Teaching second semester
Teacher Candidates
Students in the Teacher Education program