PACT: Pre-Admission Content Testing

PACT testing is a route to take content-area certification tests before entering an Educator Preparation Program (EPP), to demonstrate content mastery. The test content and administration is the same as any certification exam, and the results are used as documentation when you apply for a teaching certificate.

PACT: Testing Eligibility

A candidate for certification may take a Pre-Admission Content Test (PACT) under two conditions:

1. The candidate holds a bachelor's degree or is scheduled to receive a bachelor’s degree before being placed in a classroom.
2. The candidate has never been admitted to an approved Texas Educator Preparation Program.

PACT: Test Registration

If a candidate for certification does not already have a TEA ID number, the candidate should not create a profile on TEAL. Go to http://cms.texes-ets.org/registration/ (outside source) and click "Register."

Scroll to the bottom of the next page and click “New User.” Click “No TEA ID” on the next page. This process will generate a TEA profile and ID number. Follow the instructions to create your profile and your ETS testing account. Click "Register for a test.” If you are not ready yet, you can do this step later.

If the candidate already has a TEA ID because of an existing TEA account (those who were educational aides or substitute teachers, for example), the candidate will get a message when attempting to set up a testing account. In this situation, TEA will need to add the PACT approval to the candidate’s record. The candidate must contact the TEA certification division at 512-936-8400 to request the approval. (Requests for PACT approval, for the purpose of changing EPPs after being admitted, will be denied by TEA.)

PACT: Test Preparation

A variety of test preparation resources are available on the ETS TExES website free of charge. Go to http://cms.texes-ets.org/prepmaterials/ (outside source) and click “TExES Preparation Resources.” Select the items that are appropriate to the content-area test that you will be taking.

ETS also has preparation materials for some content tests in the form of e-Books at a cost of $20. Go to http://store.ets.org/ (outside source). Click “Texas Educator Certification Program” for a list of materials.

Additional preparation materials, of varying quality and cost, are available for purchase from vendors such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and others.

PACT: Additional Information

The registration fee for a test is $120. All certification tests are taken in a computer-administered format. Testing dates vary, depending on the test that is to be taken and the testing location that is selected.

Scores for multiple-choice tests are usually available within 7 days after testing. Scores for tests that have a written or oral response component are usually available within 28 days after testing.

If you have questions regarding Pre-Admission Content Tests (PACT), contact Dr. Roy Hurst (hurst_r@utpb.edu) or Mrs. Tricia Garza (garza_pa@utpb.edu).