

HB 2

Revised Texas Teacher

Certification Requirements



HB 2 Implementation: Teacher Certification

New Requirements and Application Process for Certification Delay

New Teacher Certification Requirements

- Completion of state-approved teacher preparation program
- Beginning in 2026-27, teachers who do not hold appropriate certification cannot teach K-5 Math or Reading
- In 2027-28, this extends to all core subjects across all grade levels
- Passing scores on required certification examinations
- Background check clearance and fingerprinting

Application Process for Delay

Board Approval

Submit Request

Agreement with Teachworthy

District Support: Letter of support from hiring district required

Review Timeline: Applications processed within 30 business days

Approval Decision: One-year delay granted with conditions

Smithville ISD Teacher Certifications

140

Total Teaching Staff

127

Traditionally Certified

13

(6 of 13 in K-5)

Alternatively Certified

Alternative Certification Breakdown



Total Alternative Certifications: 15 staff members (10.7% of total staff)

Teachworthy

5 staff

Alternative preparation

DOI w/SOE Deadline

3 staff

In progress with deadline

Alternative Cert

2 staff

Alternative certification

Intern

3 staff

Intern certification

Next Steps

- Consider Board approval of Certification Requirement Waiver at February 23, 2026 meeting
- SISD posts the notice to intend to apply for the Certification Requirement Waiver
- Waiver submission submitted to TEA



Questions or Comments

