

# Finisher FAQs

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Science of Teaching Reading,  
Certification and Testing

# General Information

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Urban Education, [TExES-Certification-Testing webpage](#)

Texas Education Agency, [TEA Logon](#)

# FAQs

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Science of Teaching Reading

# STR Question #1

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- If I pass the content (Core Subjects EC-6 or Core Subjects 4-8) and Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities EC-12 before December 1, 2020 will I need to take the Science of Teaching Reading?
- Yes, you will need to take the Science of Teaching Reading if you have not received your standard teaching certification.

## STR Question #2

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- I don't feel like I am ready to take my exams by December 1, 2020. Can I go ahead and start the preparation for the Science of Teaching Reading?
- The UE department is developing a preparatory course that will be made available to eligible students.

# STR Question #3

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- TEA states that the Science of Teaching Reading will not be available until January 2021 and we have until December 31, 2020 to get certified, why does UHD have a different deadline?
- The UHD adjusted deadline accounts for items needed for certification completion and posting. These include:
  - 1. Fingerprinting Appointment and Payment;
  - 2. Standard Certification fee payment; and
  - 3. Posting of certification exam scores

# STR Question #4

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- I have had difficulty passing the Social Studies EC-6. Currently, I am completing a waiver application for TEA. Even though I have completed my hours, I don't feel ready to submit my application for my waiver until after December 1, 2020. How will the Science of Teaching Reading impact me?
- According to TEA, all waiver applications must be sent by December 1, 2020 to ensure a timely response and to meet the exam deadline.

# STR Question #5

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- I was finally able to retake Science EC-6 on December 27, 2020 and my scores posted on December 29, 2020. Will I be able to get certified in time so that I won't need to take the Science of Teaching Reading?
- No. The University will be closed and requests for recommendation of certification will not be able to be processed until after January 1, 2021. Therefore, it is advised that you work with the Certification Officer to develop a plan that will allow you to be certified before the additional exam is active.



# STR Question #6

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- I finished UHD as a Secondary Candidate. Will the Science of Teaching Reading exam impact me?
- The Science of Teaching Reading will only impact former un-certified candidates in Core Subjects EC-6 and Core Subjects 4-8.
- It is recommended that secondary candidates take the content and PPR EC-12 exams in a timely manner.

# FAQs

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Testing

# Testing Question #1

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- Will I still need to complete remediation if I have failed a certification exam like PPR, ESL Supplemental, Bilingual Ed Supplemental or BTLPT?
- **Yes. Remediation is required for all failed exam attempts.**

# Testing Question #2

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- I have failed a section of the Core Subjects EC-6 or Core Subjects 4-8. Will I need to wait 45 days to retake that section and complete remediation?
- No, you will not need to wait 45 days. The time frame has changed to 30 days
- Yes, you will need to complete remediation before you are eligible to request test approval during the waiting period.

# Testing Question #3

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- Since I have graduated from UHD will I still need to request test approval from UHD.
- Yes. TEA requires test approval through your Educator Preparation Program (EPP) of enrollment and completion.

# Testing Question #4

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- If I need more time to take my exams, will I be allowed to transfer out of the UHD program?
- You are eligible to transfer out of the UHD program if you want to receive test approval in a different area/program.
- Example: If you finished Core Subjects EC-6 w/ Bilingual Supplemental program then you will need to transfer to an ACP for Core Subjects 4-8

# Testing Question #5

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- I have never taken an exam before and do not have my TEA number. How do I access my TEA account and retrieve my number?
- To activate your account and retrieve the TEA number use the following link: [TEA Login \(TEAL\)](#)

# Testing Question #6

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- You stated my TEA account isn't activated. How do I activate my TEA account?
- To activate your TEA account, login and indicate your gender, ethnicity, mailing address, city, state, zip code and phone number.
- [TEA Login \(TEAL\)](#)



# Testing Question #7

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- I graduated from UHD but I only know my 900 number, how do I get access to my new number?
- To access the new number, login to your [MyUHD](#) account. If you have difficulty select locate username and then reset your password.

# Testing Question #8

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- I am ready to start taking my exams, how do I request test approval?
- To request test approval, submit a [Registration Form](#) to request one exam at a time. As a finisher you will be able to submit your request using your personal email address.
- The form must include both your UHD (not 900#) AND TEA numbers.

# Testing Question

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- I heard that there is a new certification coming out called Early Childhood through 3<sup>rd</sup>. Since my heart is really in Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten, what do I need to do to receive test approval for this exam?
- Currently, UHD doesn't offer that certification so we will not be able to grant you test approval. However, transferring to a program that offers that certification is permissible. You will be required to complete all of the new program certification and testing requirements.

# FAQs

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Certification

# Certification Question #1

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- I currently hold a probationary certification, intern certification, or non-renewable permit. Do I still need to pass my exams by December 1, 2020?
- Yes. You must be certified by December 1, 2020, since the standard teaching certification is still required.

# Certification Question #2

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- Currently, I am working as a second grade English Language Arts and Social Studies teacher on a probationary certification. Can I just get certified **in** as ELA and Social Studies EC-6 only?
- **No. The Core Subjects EC-6 does not offer certification for each content area. Therefore you you must take and pass all sections of the Core Subjects EC-6 for certification.**
- **\* Note, this also applies to Core Subjects 4-8 because UHD doesn't offer the content areas separately.**

# Certification Question #3

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- I have passed English Language Arts and Science of Teaching Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies, Fine Arts, Health and Physical Education sections of the Core Subjects EC-6, PPR EC-12 and ESL Supplemental (Bilingual Education Supplemental and BTLPT as a Bilingual Candidate). Can I get certified without the Science EC-6?
- No, you will need to pass ALL sections of the Core Subjects EC-6 to be eligible for certification.

# Certification Question #4

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- I have heard about a probationary or intern certificate or certification and I would like to know if I qualify?.
- To qualify for a probationary certification you must have graduated during the fall 2019 or spring 2020 semesters; OR
- If you are currently enrolled in the alternative certification program (ACP) at UHD and have completed the required coursework the Asst. Director/Director of the ACP will send notification when you qualify for an intern certification.



# Certification Question #5

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- I have graduated and passed all of my exams, what do I do next?
- You will be given the next steps by the UHD Certification Officer as soon as scores post to your TEA account.

# Certification Question #6

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- I have been working and was previously fingerprinted. Will I need to get my fingerprints done again?
- It will depend on who has requested the fingerprints and if the results were released to TEA.

# Certification Question #7

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- How much are the certification fees?
- Standard teaching certification fees are approximately \$77
- Fingerprinting fees are approximately \$39.50

# Certification Question #8

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- I submitted the certification application through TEA. Why has my certification not posted?
- The certification recommendation is not an automatic process and may take a few days. Make sure you submitted the Recommendation for Certification Form which alerts the University that you are ready to be recommended.

# Certification Question #9

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- I received an email confirming my certification recommendation, but I don't see the certification, why not?
- Certifications do not post until fingerprints are processed AND the certification payment is received.

# Certification Question #10

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- I received my standard teaching certification and I would like to take an additional certification exam. Will I need to submit a request to UHD?
- **No. Once you are certified with the standard teaching certification, you may request test approval directly through the current test administrator (Pearson) as a certification by exam.**

# Certification Question #11

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- I am certified and would like to take an additional exam to get certified to become a Principal, why am I not able to request test approval through Pearson?
- For certain certifications like School Counselor, Principal (Assistant Principal), Superintendent and Educational Diagnostician an additional degree is required to qualify to take the certification exams.

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