Educational Diagnostician

Admission Requirements:

- Must reside in Texas
- Fulfill all requirements set forth by the Graduate School
- Have at least 2 years of creditable teaching experience
- Hold a valid Texas teaching certificate
- Bachelor’s degree
- 3.0 or higher GPA**
- Program Applications will be accepted for Fall and Spring semesters only:
  - Deadlines for Admission are: August 1 (Fall); December 1 (Spring)

** Applicants with a GPA below 3.0 will be required to take the GRE and perform at or above a score equivalent to a 3.0 GPA on the Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytic Writing sections of the GRE® (Graduate Record Examinations) revised General Test. The State Board for Educator Certification will use equivalency scores established by the Educational Testing Service, and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will publish equivalency scores annually on the TEA website. Applicants with a GPA below 3.0 will be reviewed on a case by case basis and may be deferred to a later admission date.

The Graduate School Catalog specifies the circumstances under which candidates may be placed on probation, suspension or dismissal. Additionally, the Educational Diagnostician Program Faculty may recommend to probate, suspend or dismiss from the program candidates who do not meet the program’s academic requirements, do not make satisfactory progress over time toward completion of the educational diagnostician degree or who display inappropriate behaviors.

Success in the Educational Diagnostician Program consists of more than grades. Work habits and attitudes play a major role in the success of any educational diagnostician candidate. Any of the following actions will constitute a mandatory meeting with the faculty and possible dismissal from the Educational Diagnostician Program:

1. Dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.).
2. Mistreatment of and/or disrespect for fellow candidates or faculty.
3. Abusing a fellow candidate or faculty member (including abusive language or bullying).
5. Receipt of a Fail grade in EDSP 5093, EDSP 5396 or EDSP 5094.
6. Failure to maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher.
7. Unethical behavior as defined by ethical guidelines and practice (e.g., CEC).
8. Sexual harassment as defined by Texas Tech University.
**Trademark Outcome:** Engage in collaboration with stakeholders to improve candidate skills in assessment practices and planning for students with disabilities in a classroom setting.

**Standards Used:**
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
  - Advanced Specialty Set: Special Education Diagnostician Specialist (SEDS)

**Performance Skills**

The Candidate can:

**Phase One**
- **SEDS.7.S1 Collaboration** - Communicate with team members to determine assessment needs
- **SEDS.7.S2 Collaboration** - Communicate with team members to review assessment results
- **SEDS.7.S4 Collaboration** - Assist teachers in interpreting data including large scale and individual assessments
- **SEDS.7.S4 Collaboration** - Communicate with team members to review assessment results.
- **SEDS.7.S4 Collaboration** - Assist teachers in interpreting data, including large-scale and individual assessments

**Phase Two**
- **SEDS.7.S1 – Collaboration** - Communicate with team members to determine assessment needs
- **SEDS.7.S2 – Collaboration** - Communicate with team members to review assessment results
- **SEDS.7.S4 – Collaboration** - Assist teachers in interpreting data including large scale and individual assessments
- **SEDS.1:S3 – Assessment** – Assess basic academic skills formally and informally
- **SEDS.1:S4 – Assessment** – Select, administer, and score assessment instruments accurately

**Phase Three**
- **SEDS.1:S5 - Assessment** – Analyze error patterns
- **SEDS.5.K4 – Leadership and Policy** – Models, theories, and philosophies that form the basis of assessment
- **SEDS.1:S6 – Assessment** – Prepare comprehensive assessment reports
- **SEDS.1:S10 – Assessment** – Use progress monitoring data to develop and revise individual goals
- **SEDS.1:S8 – Assessment** – Select accommodations and modification based on assessment results
- **SEDS.7.S2 Collaboration** – Communicate with team members to review assessment results.
- **SEDS.7.S4 - Collaboration** – Assist teachers in interpreting data, including large-scale and individual assessments
Program of Studies for Professional Educational Diagnostician
Master’s Degree with Certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Courses</th>
<th>33 semester hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5301</td>
<td>Educational Appraisal of Exceptional Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5303</td>
<td>Applied Behavior Analysis in Special Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5304</td>
<td>Instructional Strategies for Teaching Students with High Incidence Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5306</td>
<td>Instructional Strategies for Teaching Students with Low Incidence Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5307</td>
<td>Collaborative Problem Solving in Special Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5308</td>
<td>Authentic Assessment for Students with Exceptionalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5330</td>
<td>Children and Youth with High Incidence Disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPSY 5331</td>
<td>Human Development in Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5093</td>
<td>Internship in Special Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5396</td>
<td>Standardized Cog/Ach Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSP 5094</td>
<td>Advanced Internship in Special Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Educational Diagnostician Master’s Degree ONLY
EPSY 5379 Introduction to Educational Research

Total of 36 semester hours for Master’s Degree
Total of 33 semester hours for Certification Only

Scope and Sequence for Educational Diagnostician

Upon admittance candidates will receive a suggested course sequence. Candidates are not required to follow the suggested course sequence with the exception of EDSP 5093, EDSP 5396, and EDSP 5094.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1: Communication</th>
<th>A&amp;Es</th>
<th>A&amp;Es</th>
<th>A&amp;Es</th>
<th>A&amp;Es</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDSP 5301: Educational Appraisal</td>
<td>EDSP 5303: ABA in Special Education</td>
<td>**EDSP 5307: Collaborative Problem Solving in Special Education</td>
<td>EDSP 5330: High Incidence characteristics</td>
<td>P1 Assessment: Communication skills mastery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2: Plan and Implement Intervention</td>
<td>EDSP 5304: High Incidence Instructional Methods</td>
<td>EDSP 5306: Low Incidence Instructional Methods</td>
<td>**EDSP 5308: Authentic Assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td>P2 Assessment: Plan &amp; implement mastery</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** End of Phase Assessment
The Phase 3 End of Phase Assessment (Comprehensive Examination Project) is taken during the last semester of coursework.

**Culminating P3 Assessment: Comprehensive Examination Project demonstrating mastery of all three skills
Program Requirements and Information

EDSP 5093/EDSP 5396/ EDSP 5094 – EDSP 5093 is a Prerequisite to EDSP 5396 and EDSP 5094. EDSP 5396 is a Prerequisite to EDSP 5094 (EDSP 5094 will be taken during your last full semester of coursework). All three courses are only available in the Fall/Spring semesters.

EDSP 5093, EDSP 5396, and EDSP 5094 – Coursework includes administration of formal assessments (Woodcock-Johnson, Wechsler, and Kaufman – Only Form A and pencil and paper formats will be accepted). A limited number of test kits are available from TTU, therefore, you are encouraged to obtain test kits locally. Candidates who do not follow the test kit return policy are required to obtain test kits locally to fulfill course requirements. Test kits cannot be mailed out of state. Therefore, candidates who have relocated out of state before completion of the program, will be required to locate test kits locally in order to complete program requirements.

Candidates earning the grade of C or lower for any course(s) required for certification must attend a mandatory meeting with the faculty advisor(s) before continuation in the program. A grade of “B” or higher in EDSP 5093, EDSP 5396 and EDSP 5094 is required for approval to sit for the TExES Educational Diagnostician examination (153).

The Practicum experience included in EDSP 5094 must be completed in a school accredited by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in order to practice as an educational diagnostician in the state of Texas. Candidates are responsible for locating and securing a Practicum Site and an Educational Diagnostician willing to serve as a Site Supervisor. TTU does not arrange for a Practicum Site or Site Supervisor. If the candidate cannot arrange for a Texas Education Agency (TEA) approved site and site supervisor, the candidate will not be able to complete the Master’s Educational Diagnostician Program or state certification.

Educational Diagnostician Certification requires successful completion of an educational diagnostician preparation program, successful completion of the TExES Educational Diagnostician examination (153), Master’s Degree, 3 creditable years of teaching experience as a classroom teacher, and a valid (Texas) teaching certificate.

Candidates are encouraged to sit for the TExES Educational Diagnostician Exam (153) upon receiving release from TTU to do so. Candidates who do not complete the TExES Educational Diagnostician Exam (153) within one year after graduation will be required to repeat EDSP 5094.

Candidates who fail the TExES Educational Diagnostician Exam (153) will be required to complete remediation as prescribed by the Educational Diagnostician faculty. After the third failed attempt the candidate will be required to complete EDSP 7000 (1 credit hour) to receive intensive remediation in deficit areas prior to being approved to retake the exam. TEA limits candidates to a limit of five attempts to take a certification test. The five attempts include the first attempt to pass the examination and four retakes.

By initializing each item above and signing below, I acknowledge and understand the requirements set forth by the program and TEA to obtain the M.Ed. and state certification as an Educational Diagnostician. I understand that if the above requirements are not met, I will not be able to complete the M.Ed. Educational Diagnostician Program or state certification.

Signature  Date
Master’s Comprehensive Examination Project:
Standards Used:
Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- Advanced Specialty Set: Special Education Diagnostician Specialist (SEDS)

Comprehensive Examination Project
1. Register electronically with the College of Education Graduate Office for the Comprehensive Examination Project.

2. Candidates must contact their advisor to request the Comprehensive Examination Project description not more than two weeks prior to the COE Comprehensive Examination due date.

3. Submit your Intent to Graduate electronically with the Graduate School.

4. Candidates are required to develop a comprehensive Full Individual Evaluation (FIE) based on assessment data provided and report the results and recommendations to a group of stakeholders during a collaborative Mock ARD meeting. You have practiced for this project across all required program coursework. NOTE: You may NOT use or duplicate a previously submitted project or assignment as your Comprehensive Examination Project.

5. Candidate will be provided with an FIE template and assessment data. The candidate will identify at least two stakeholders for the Mock ARD meeting. The stakeholders will portray the role of a parent and a teacher,
The following steps must be included:
   a) The candidate will use the data provided to write a Full Individual Evaluation (FIE) using the template provided.
      The FIE will include all required parts of an FIE including interpretation of the assessment scores, recommendations for eligibility, instructional strategies, and accommodations.
   b. The completed FIE report will be reviewed in a collaborative Mock ARD with the volunteer parent and teacher
   c. The Mock ARD will be videotaped (15-20 min.) and the rubric timestamped for each demonstrated rubric objective.

6. Complete the Comprehensive Examination Project by gathering data to demonstrate mastery of the following goals as addressed on the Comprehensive Examination Project rubric:
   a) **SEDS.7.S2 Communicates** with team members to review assessment results  
   b) **SEDS.1.S6 Prepare comprehensive assessment reports** using the collaborative consultation process  
   c) **SEDS.1.S8 Evaluation**-Use assessment data to develop instructional recommendations and research-based interventions
7. Steps for Completion of the Comprehensive Examination:

a) Submit the finished project to College of Education (COE) Graduate School Coordinator and your graduate advisor by the Comprehensive Examination Project due date for the semester.

   i. **15-20 min. Video.** Provide direct visual evidence of the candidate’s mastery of rubric skills.

   ii. **FIE Report**

b) The YouTube link to the Mock ARD video (15-20 min.) timestamping the evidence of mastery for each of the skills found on the rubric provided.

   i. **Instructions to submit Videos via Unlisted You – Tube**
   1. First, you must register for your own YouTube account. (http://www.youtube.com). Click on “Sign In” and then “Create an Account.” Follow the instructions to set up a YouTube account.
      After you have recorded your video, you need to upload it to YouTube.
   2. You will be asked to give a title, description, tags (education, consulting, etc) and a category.
   3. Then it will ask you how you want to publish it. The options are Public (everyone sees) Unlisted (only those with a link can view) and then Private - only you can view it.
   4. Select "UNLISTED."
   5. After it is uploaded to YouTube, you go to "My Videos" and click on the video that you want to share. There is a share button. When you click it, you will be given a URL that you can copy and paste into an email, Blackboard, etc. Only people with that URL can view your video. It is not "searchable" on YouTube.

c) Submit the finished project to College of Education (COE) Graduate School Coordinator and your graduate advisor by the Comprehensive Examination Project due date for the semester.

The grade is Pass/Fail for the Comprehensive Examination Project using the Rubric ratings of at least two faculty members. Ratings must average overall a Minimal/Acceptable or above to receive a Pass for the project.

**Important:** You must file with the Graduate School an intent to graduate and application to take the Master’s Comprehensive Exam. You will receive an email notice from the COE Graduate School Coordinator containing instructions pertaining to graduation requirements prior to your final semester.
**Trademark Outcome:** Engage in collaboration with stakeholders to improve candidate skills in assessment practices and planning for students with disabilities in a classroom setting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subskill</th>
<th>Meets/Exceeds Expectations -5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Minimal/Acceptable Expectation-3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>Unacceptable-1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEDS.7S2 Communicate with team members to review assessment results</td>
<td>Clearly communicates assessment results in an objective manner</td>
<td></td>
<td>Somewhat clearly states assessment results in objective manner</td>
<td></td>
<td>Does not clearly communicate assessment results in objective manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Always provides direct feedback to member questions/concerns</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provides acceptable feedback to member questions/concerns</td>
<td></td>
<td>Does not provide acceptable feedback to member questions/concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Always keeps meeting focus on student evaluation and planning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Keeps group focused on student evaluation and planning most of the time</td>
<td></td>
<td>Does not keep group focused on student evaluation and planning most of the time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDS.1.S6 Prepare comprehensive assessment reports using the collaborative consultation process</td>
<td>Develops a detailed interpretive written report including all required components of a comprehensive FIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Develops a written report providing brief interpretive information in all required component of a comprehensive FIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Written report lacks appropriate interpretative information and/or omits some required components of a comprehensive FIE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Accurately identifies all areas of deficit and thoroughly links cognitive to achievement deficits based on assessment results</td>
<td></td>
<td>Accurately identifies all areas of deficit and minimally links cognitive to achievement deficits based on assessment results</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inaccurately identifies areas of deficit and does not link cognitive and achievement deficits based on assessment results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provides comprehensive interpretation of all assessment component results and discusses student needs w/group</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provides appropriate interpretation of all assessment component results and discusses student needs w/group</td>
<td></td>
<td>Provides vague interpretation of most assessment component results and discusses student needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEDS. 1.S8 Evaluation- Use assessment data to develop instructional recommendations and research-based interventions</td>
<td>Makes all decisions/recommendations based on data w/group input</td>
<td></td>
<td>Makes most decisions/recommendations based on data</td>
<td></td>
<td>Makes decisions based on opinions rather than data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Instructional recommendations are based on assessment data in all deficit areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Instructional recommendations are based on assessment data in most deficit areas</td>
<td></td>
<td>Instructional recommendations do not address deficit areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recommends detailed research-based interventions relevant to areas of deficit identified in FIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Recommends general research-based interventions relevant to areas of deficit identified in FIE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Does not recommend general research-based interventions relevant to all areas of deficit identified in FIE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The grade is Pass/Fail for the Comprehensive Examination Project using the Rubric ratings of at least two faculty members. Ratings must average overall a Minimal/Acceptable or above to receive a Pass for the project.

**Thesis Option**

Each Master’s Degree candidate will have an option of completing a thesis as part of the requirements for the Master's Degree in Special Education. Under this option, candidates enroll in 6 semester hours of EDSP 6000, and this becomes part of the minimum of 36 semester hours on the degree plan. Candidates completing a Master’s thesis are exempt from taking the comprehensive evaluation. However, candidates must complete a final oral defense.

If interested in completing a Master’s thesis, candidates should discuss these plans with their advisor. A thesis committee of at least two full-time faculty members of the College of Education will be recommended by the advisor and approved by the Graduate School. This committee will provide ongoing guidance as the candidate prepares the proposal, carries out the research project, and completes the written document. The process of planning the thesis, ideally, should begin in the semester in which the candidate takes Introduction to Educational Research.

The final copy of the thesis is prepared in accordance with the requirements in Instructions for Preparing and Submitting Theses and Dissertations, available online and in the Texas Tech Bookstore.

**Evaluation for the Master Degree Thesis**

1. Check with your advisor, and with your advisor’s help, choose at least a 2-member thesis committee. This committee should match your degree plan.
2. Set up a meeting with your thesis committee to talk about your selection for an appropriate topic.
3. Your thesis committee should guide you through the process, including the Need for Human Subject approval. However, it is the responsibility of the candidate to fill out and submit paperwork to his/her advisor.
4. Thesis defenses should be completed by early November for fall or late March for spring to file the thesis with the Graduate School. Remember that the Graduate School has deadlines for submission, and candidates must adhere to these guidelines. It is the candidate's responsibility to keep track of all deadlines. Should a candidate miss the deadlines or fail the thesis defense, he or she has one semester to complete and successfully defend the thesis. Otherwise a failing grade will be recorded.

**Specializations and Certifications**

**Useful Resources**

- [TExES Examination](#)
- [Required Steps for Master’s Degree](#)
- [Master's Degree Plan](#)

**Additional Information:**

- [CEC Code of Ethics](#)
- [Graduate College Website](#)
CEC Advanced Specialty Set: Special Education Diagnostician Specialist (SEDS)
**PERFORMANCE SKILLS**

*The Candidate Can...*

**Phase 1**

- Demonstrate competency in collaboration with stakeholders
  - SEDS.7.S1 Collaboration - Communicate with team members to determine assessment needs
  - SEDS.3.K4 – Programs, Services, and Outcomes – Characteristics of individuals with exceptional learning needs that affect the development of programs and services

**Phase 2**

- Demonstrate competency in collaboration with stakeholders to plan and implement informal assessment
  - SEDS.7.S1 – Collaboration - Communicate with team members to determine assessment needs
  - SEDS.7.S2 – Collaboration - Communicate with team members to review assessment results
  - SEDS.7.S4 – Collaboration - Assist teachers in interpreting data including large scale and individual assessments
  - SEDS.1:S3 – Assessment – Assess basic academic skills formally and informally
  - SEDS.1:S4 – Assessment – Select, administer, and score assessment instruments accurately

**Phase 3**

- Demonstrate competency in collaboration with stakeholders to plan, implement, and interpret formal assessment
  - SEDS.1:S5 – Assessment – Analyze error patterns
  - SEDS.5.K4 – Leadership and Policy – Models, theories, and philosophies that form the basis of assessment
  - SEDS.1:S6 – Assessment – Prepare comprehensive assessment reports
  - SEDS.1:S10 – Assessment – Use progress monitoring data to develop and revise individual goals
  - SEDS.1:S8 – Assessment – Select accommodations and modifications based on assessment results
  - SEDS.7.S2 Collaboration – Communicate with team members to review assessment results.
  - SEDS.7.S4 - Collaboration– Assist teachers in interpreting data, including large-scale and individual assessments

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**Phase 1 A&E**

**Collaboration Skills**

- EDSP 5301: Educational Appraisal
- EDSP 5303: ABA in Special Education
- EDSP 5330: High Incidence Characteristics
- EDSP 5307*: Collaborative Problem Solving in Sped

*End of Phase Assessment

**Phase 2 A&E**

**Plan & Implement an Informal Assessment**

- EDSP 5304: High Incidence Methods
- EDSP 5306: Low Incidence Methods
- EDSP 5308*: Authentic Assessment

*End of Phase Assessment

**Phase 3 A&E**

**Plan, Implement, & Interpret Formal Assessment**

- EDSP 5093: Internship
- EDSP 5396: Standardized Cognitive and Achievement Assessment
- EDSP 5094: Advanced Internship

End of Phase Assessment Comprehensive Examination Project.