



Path to Becoming a Music Educator at Texas Tech University

- _____ Freshman Year (spring) – enroll in Intro to Music Teaching
- _____ Follow degree plan for your selected area of emphasis (band, orchestra, choir):
 - All degree plans include extensive peer teaching and field-based experiences in the schools in our efforts to make our program learner centered.
- _____ Maintain GPA: 2.75 required for teacher certification; 3.2 required for application to BM+MMED program.
 - Music educators need the best academic backgrounds possible.
- _____ Refine musicianship: solo performance, ensemble participation, conducting, rehearsal techniques, knowledge of secondary instruments, theory and history sufficient for passing comprehensive teacher certification exams (TExES)
- _____ Successfully perform your Junior Recital. Music educators need to be the best musicians possible.
- _____ Develop personal responsibility in order to lead the next generation of musicians
- _____ Develop as a teacher. Refine your teaching skills by teaching peers during Curriculum.
- _____ Develop as a teacher. Refine your teaching skills by teaching kids in the schools during Practicum.
- _____ One Year before student teaching: Submit a PLACEMENT REQUEST form:
 - Fall Student Teaching – submit a Student Teaching Placement Request by September 20th of the fall *prior* to your student teaching semester (one year early). Typically while taking Curriculum.
 - Spring Student Teaching - submit a Student Teaching Placement Request by February 20th of the spring *prior* to your student teaching semester (one year early). Typically while taking Curriculum.
 - Confer with appropriate music education faculty members prior to requesting a placement.
 - Student teaching placement is determined by the TTU Music Education faculty. Students may *request* out-of-area placement (given appropriate grades, musical development & maturity of judgment), but placement is a MMED committee decision.
 - Out-of-Area requests require a Placement Request PLUS an Out-of-Area Student Teaching Request form.
 - Students should not make or accept any commitments to specific cooperating teachers before placements are officially finalized by TTU.
 - Phrases such as “I’m going to student teach with you” or “I’m observing here so I can decide whether I want to student teach with you” or even “I want to student teach with you” or “I will request your school” are not appropriate.
 - When observing at a school, comments such as “I’d like to observe your program” are ideal.
 - Sequence:
 - _____ Semester 1: Make official placement request in writing; Linda Gregston then checks your eligibility.
 - _____ Semester 2: Meet individually with music ed faculty regarding eligibility & appropriate placement. You will receive an email regarding specific time and date of this meeting, usually early in the semester.
 - _____ Dr. Henninger will make the official request after meeting with you. As soon as the cooperating teacher has accepted, your placement is considered “official,” and you will be copied on all subsequent contact. You should then contact the cooperating teacher.
 - _____ Send your cooperating teacher a resume and/or other information about yourself.
 - _____ Meet again with Dr. Henninger prior to leaving campus for the semester.
 - _____ Expect much paperwork involving student teaching. Amount & specifics will vary by district.
- _____ Prior to Student Teaching - Take the two TExES teacher certification exams
 - EC-12 All-Level Music TExES (Test #177) Required prior to student teaching.
 - EC-12 All-Level PPR-Pedagogy & Professional Responsibility TExES (Test #160)

Music Certification in Texas: All-Level Music (EC-12 Vocal and Instrumental)

Teacher certification is granted State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC), upon successful completion of both TExES certification exams, and following receipt of the Bachelor of Music Leading to Certification at Texas Tech University.