

PRINCIPAL CERTIFICATION

This certification plan is designed specifically for the educator who has previously obtained a master's degree in education and wishes to obtain Texas Principal as Instructional Leader certification. It requires the completion of 18 credit hours of graduate credit coursework. The program complies with existing standards for professional certification. The study plan originates in the Department of Educational Leadership.

Financial Aid Note: [The 18-credit hour Principal Certification-only program is not eligible for financial aid whereas the degree-seeking 30-credit hour M.Ed. in School Leadership candidate may be eligible for financial aid.](#)

Additional information: Reference the Program Landing Page (<https://www.shsu.edu/programs/certification/principal/>) for additional information, such as cost, delivery format, contact information, or to schedule a visit.

Applicants seeking admission to the Principal Certification program must submit the following directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions (<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/prospective-students.html>):

1. Graduate Admissions Application (<https://www.shsu.edu/admissions/apply/>)
2. Application Fee (<https://www.shsu.edu/dept/graduate-admissions/application-fee.html>)
3. Pay the \$35 Texas Education Accountability System for Educator Preparation Programs Fee (https://secure.touchnet.com/C21329_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=1601) (paid to the TEA as required by TEA 229.9.7 ([http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=19&pt=7&ch=229&rl=9%E2%88%9A](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=19&pt=7&ch=229&rl=9%E2%88%9A)))
4. Official transcript(s) from the baccalaureate degree-granting institution and the master's degree-granting institution, if applicable, with a minimum GPA of 3.0 overall or in the last 60 hours.
5. Copy of Teacher Service Record from your school district's Human Resource Department with two years of creditable teaching experience preferred; however, we will consider applicants with one year of certified teaching experience. (Applicant must be working at a Texas Education Agency accredited school.)
6. Copy of valid Teacher Certificate
7. School Leadership Statement
8. Written essay

University Application Deadlines:

Fall: August 1st

Spring: December 15th

Summer: May 15th

Candidates have six years from the semester of the first course to complete program requirements and state certification (e.g., pass exams).

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| Code | Title | Hours |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Principal Certification | | |
| Specified Courses | | |
| EDAD 5332 | School Leadership | 3 |
| EDAD 5372 | Federal, State, and Local School Law | 3 |
| EDAD 5386 | Special Populations and Special Programs | 3 |
| EDAD 6362 | Principal Practicum/Internship ¹ | 6 |
| EDAD 6378 | Instructional Supervision | 3 |
| Total Hours | | 18 |

¹ EDAD 6362 Principal Practicum / Internship is taken over two long semesters, fall and spring or spring and fall, (3 hours each semester) and may be taken with one other course.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) marketable skills initiative is part of the state's **60x30TX plan** and was designed to help students articulate their skills to employers. Marketable skills are those valued by employers and/or graduate programs that can be applied in a variety of work or education settings and may include interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skill areas.

The Principal Certification is designed to provide graduates with the following marketable skills:

- Build trusting relationships.
- Use collaborative decision-making.
- Support data-driven instruction (building capacity of teachers, staff, and students).
- Practice ethical leadership.
- Observe and provide TTESS-aligned feedback.
- Lead effective professional development.
- Determine and support school improvement tasks.