

A group of people are gathered around a table in a meeting room. A woman in a light-colored blazer stands on the left, smiling and addressing the group. Several other people are seated around the table, some looking at documents or laptops. The room has large windows in the background.

HBU

HOUSTON BAPTIST
UNIVERSITY

ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

TEACHER EDUCATION
LEADING TO A MASTER'S DEGREE

So you want to be a teacher ...

From the Dean

Thank you for your interest in teacher licensure at Houston Baptist University. We are ready to help you as you pursue your goal of teacher certification. At HBU, you will find a dedicated professional teaching staff, a focus on the individual student, and a curriculum that prepares you to positively impact children's learning. May God's richest blessings be with you as you prepare for your calling to teach.

— *Joseph D. Brown, PhD*
College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

About the Program

Houston Baptist University's Alternative Certification Program (ACP) is an option for attaining initial teacher certification in Texas for qualified applicants. The HBU Alternative Certification Program has been approved by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) as complying with the US Department of Education's rules concerning criteria for an acceptable alternative route to certification program under the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. The program provides the opportunity for a student with a Bachelor's degree who meets all requirements for admission to the HBU ACP program and passes the Content Area TExES to be employed as a full-time teacher in area school districts while completing the required coursework for the ACP and to be considered "highly qualified" in accordance with applicable federal law. Candidates admitted to the program (see Minimum Requirements) will be eligible for the Probationary certificate once they are employed by a school district as a teacher. When the student completes the required coursework, passes the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities exam as a component of the Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TExES), and successfully completes an Internship year, he or she is eligible for recommendation for the standard teaching certificate.

If you are interested in teaching we hope you will become a part of our program! Please feel free to contact us if you need any additional information.

Houston Baptist University

College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Department of Education and Kinesiology

7502 Fondren Road

Houston, Texas 77074-3298

281-649-3095

<http://www.hbu.edu/acp>

Our Education Office, located on the third floor of the Hinton Building, is open Monday through Friday from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.



Certification Areas

HBU offers the following types of certification programs:

- Early Childhood - Grade 4 Generalist
- Early Childhood - Grade 4 Bilingual Generalist
- Grades 4 - 8 (Math, Science, Social Studies or English Language Arts and Reading)
- Grades 8 - 12 (English, Language Arts, & Reading, Math, Social Studies, History, Physical Science, Life Science, Science Composite)
- Grades EC - 12 (Special Education, Physical Education, Art, Music)

Coursework

The HBU ACP program provides students with 18 hours of specified Professional Education coursework. Students take 6 courses in their certification area. All courses are taken at the Graduate level. These courses prepare students for success as teachers as well as for required certification exams: The Content Area TExES and The Pedagogy & Professional Responsibilities test. Courses are in the evening during the school year.

In addition to the specified courses, the student will complete a one year internship when he or she is employed as a teacher by an area school or school district. Internship is employment with full salary and benefits.

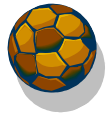
An HBU Supervisor will make regular visits to the Intern and provide the support and supervision necessary for a successful first year of teaching.

Write your own story...

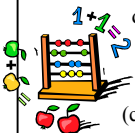


"When I decided to "go for it" so to speak, on the ACP front, I immediately thought of HBU. The thought of doing some other ACP program and then beginning to teach with such little educational preparation was just completely unacceptable to me. (I have several friends who went that route . . .) I believe that if I am choosing to make a major life-change, then I should be well prepared to do it!" - Darlene Gamiochipi (ACP and MED student)

"I spent almost two years trying to find a program that would personally sit down with me and explain my options. As a previously degreed adult I was looking for an ACP program that would give me the most growth potential at the fastest rate. HBU was the only school that took that time and had the most suitable plan for advancement. They continue to work towards helping me reach my goals. Thanks HBU!" - Melissa Henson—HISD (ACP and MED student)



"I like the ACP at HBU because it is a University based program. The courses that we take during the ACP are University graduate courses in Education. Since the ACP courses are graduate courses, the students learn the subject matter in great depth. Right from the first course to the last we learn everything from making good lesson plans to managing the classroom and teaching effectively. The teachers are very knowledgeable and helpful. Also, I like the fact that if I choose to do a Masters degree in Education in the future, all the courses done during the ACP can be transferred towards the Masters degree program." - Lata Srivatsan (ACP student)



"I really love that the ACP classes are actually Masters program classes. I feel like I am getting a more in depth education as well as killing two birds with one stone (certification and a graduate degree at the same time!)." - Kendall Stevens (ACP student)

What will I experience at HBU?

- Faculty of professionals
- Small classes where you're known as an individual
- Supervision and support by a University professional
- Highest pass rate for the PPR certification exams in the state
- Hiring rate for HBU teacher education students from undergraduate, graduate, and ACP programs close to 100%
- Unlike some ACP programs, all 18 hours applicable to a Masters Degree

Master of Education Degree Option

Once you have completed the 18 hours of required coursework and have been certified, you may apply these hours toward the requirements for a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction at HBU. The Master of Education degree requires a minimum of 36 hours. The GRE is a requirement for admission to the Masters program.

Minimum ACP Program Requirements

- 4 year college degree
- 2.5 GPA
- Successful completion of the THEA Test with the following minimum scores:
Reading: 260 Math: 230 Writing: 220

Admission Process

Once you have determined that you meet the minimum qualifications, you may request an appointment with the Teacher Certification Officer to discuss the program. This meeting could take place prior to completion of the THEA test. At that time, you may bring application forms to begin the admission process. These forms are available on the HBU website: http://www.hbu.edu/hbu/ACP_Program.asp

The ACP Application and Admission Process:

A completed application includes:

- Application for Admission to the Teacher Education Program
- Master of Education Program Application and references

APPROVALS - Upon approval for admission to the University, your completed application will be forwarded to the Teacher Education Committee for admission to the Teacher Education Program and the Alternative Certification Program.

ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM - Upon admission to the ACP program, you will meet with the Teacher Certification Officer to create an ACP plan focusing on a certification area. A fee of \$100 is charged which will be credited toward tuition during your first term. Total cost for the ACP is \$5,000 plus fees.

ADVISING - Once you have been accepted into the Teacher Education Program, you will be advised on which class(es) to register for with consideration being given to the teaching field you have chosen.