

Frequently Asked Questions for ATEP

1. How many courses do I have to take before I become a highly qualified teacher?
 1. Special Education = 30 hours to complete program
 2. ATEP = 27 hours total to complete program
 3. ML ATEP = 24 hours to complete program
2. How soon can I start teaching?
 1. If you start in the Fall you can start teaching in the Spring
 2. If you start in the Spring you can start teaching in the Fall
 3. If you start in the Summer you can start teaching in the Fall
3. What is the expected completion time for the program?
 1. Three years of teaching experience in a high needs school district and whatever time is needed to complete ATEP's preliminary coursework
4. What is the total cost for the program?
 1. **SPE 12,000 – 4,000 = 8,000 approximately** (this amount can be covered by other financial aid programs)
 2. **ML 9,600 – 4,000 = 5,600 approximately** (this amount can be covered by other financial aid programs)
 3. **ATEP 10,800 – 4,000 = 6,800 approximately** (this amount can be covered by other financial aid programs)
5. When (time) are the courses taught?
 1. Courses are usually taught in the evenings starting ~ 5:30 p.m.
 2. Once you become a Teacher of Record your courses will be offered at the Downtown Campus in the evenings
6. What happens if I am not hired as a Teacher of Record?

While ATE cannot guarantee a teaching position, we can keep you apprised of upcoming job fairs and recruitment opportunities. A participant will become more marketable once they pass the content and PPR exam.

Other options: If you are not hired as a teacher of record ATE highly recommends that you apply for a position as a paraprofessional or substitute teacher in one of our six partner districts. This will serve two-fold: 1) it will give you the experience of working with culturally and linguistically diverse students as well as learn strategies, content, etc.

2) it will also help you to network with teachers and principals which may open up the doors to job opportunities.

7. Can I teach outside of the Partnership School Districts?

Yes, but it will have to be determined a “High-need” district. If it is not a high-need district, then repayment will be expected.

8. What happens if I withdraw from the program?

The scholarship monies will have to be paid back. If participant has taught in a high needs school district, the amount will be pro-rated according to the number of years taught.

9. What should I do when my ATEP scholarship/grant is exhausted?

1. We recommend that you apply for financial aid every year that you participate in the ATEP program to help you cover other tuition and fees not covered by ATEP.
2. UTSA’s Financial Aid website provides loan, grant and scholarship listings. The Stafford Loan Teacher Forgiveness Program is especially beneficial for the type of teacher ATEP is producing.
3. Mathematics and Science teachers can consider the Robert Noyce Scholarship

10. How do I check-out books?

1. You simply fill out a request for inventory sheet, sign it and take the book for the semester.

2. At the end of the semester you return the book(s) to the ATE office.

11. What does the term “highly qualified teacher” mean?

1. Passed both TExES Content Exam and Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR) Exam
2. Have taught at least one year under a probationary certificate from SBEC
3. Complete all ATEP coursework

12. Who are the partnering school districts?

1. South San Antonio ISD
2. Southside ISD
3. San Antonio ISD
4. Harlandale ISD
5. Edgewood ISD
6. Southwest ISD

13. Who will be my mentor?

ATE will assign you an Education Specialist experienced in your certification area

The Education Specialist will meet with you a minimum of two times a semester.

The Education Specialist is hired by ATE not by the school district.

14. How do I register to take the TExES test?

- a. Visit the UTSA TExES Website for instructions <http://coehd.utsa.edu/Students/TExAS/index.htm>

Contact Information to TExES Office:

Cherie Weiss, Director of TExES Program

458-5849 Office

458-5794 Fax

458-5788 TExES Hotline

Main Building Room 0.500

15. When do we get disbursements of the grant/scholarship money?

It will take one to two weeks after you sign the Notice of Award Form before the scholarship amount is applied to your student account. The courses are usually paid a few days before the last day to pay for

classes. You can check on ASAP to see if the money has been disbursed (It will indicate "ATEP Scholarship").

16. Classification Terms

Graduate Degree-Seeking Student. A student who is admitted to a graduate degree program, unconditionally, conditionally, or conditionally on academic probation.

Special Graduate Student. A student who is admitted to UTSA for the purpose of enrolling in graduate and/or undergraduate courses in one or more colleges of the University without entering a degree program.

Non-Degree-Seeking Graduate Student. A student who registers for courses but does not intend to work toward a degree at UTSA.