SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION, TEACHER CERTIFICATE

Program Description

Introduction
The College of Science and Engineering is committed to the support of students seeking to become science, mathematics and technology educators at all levels. The Science, Mathematics and Technology Education (SMTE) program offers content courses for students seeking K-12 science, mathematics and technology education. SMTE classes are also an integral part of the course work for degrees preparing students for Teacher Certifications. The SMTE program does not offer a degree; rather, degrees leading to Teacher Certification are offered by other Science and Technology programs and by the College of Education and Human Development. Students seeking to teach in the elementary and secondary schools of Texas must meet degree requirements as well as certification requirements. The requirements and procedure to become a science, mathematics or technology teacher in Texas are outlined below; presentation of such details about multiple programs in a single catalog section is intended for clarity and ease of readers in locating information.

How to Become a Science, Mathematics or Technology Teacher in Texas
In order to be recommended for teacher certification at this university, a candidate must fulfill three basic requirements:

1. have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university that includes an academic major and teacher training courses,
2. complete teacher training through an approved program, and
3. successfully complete the appropriate teacher certification tests for the subject and grade level that the candidate wishes to teach.

Additional information on the requirements to become a teacher in Texas can be obtained at the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) website: http://www.sbec.state.tx.us/SBECOnline/certinfo/becometeacher.asp. This website also provides information on the requirements to become a science, mathematics or technology teacher in Texas. The SMTE program offers content courses for students seeking to become science, mathematics and technology educators; additional courses within the professional block of courses are required.

SBEC has approved three levels of teacher certification for regular educators:

1. Early childhood to grade 6 which includes foundation subjects and enrichment areas such as art, PE, and music,
2. Grade 4-8 which includes the foundation areas only, and
3. Grade 7-12 certification.

Students can find information on the different certifications at the official Texas Examinations of Educator Standards (TExES) Web site: http://www.texes.ets.org. This website provides additional information on the requirements to become a teacher in Texas.

Grade Point Average for Admission to Teacher Education
A minimum grade point average of 2.75 (4.0 = A) in all work attempted, a minimum grade point average of 2.75 in all science, math, or specialization areas, and no grade below "C" in any science or mathematics course on a student's degree plan and/or education courses within the professional block of courses are required.

Alteration of a Certification Plan
Any amendment to a degree plan originally filed must be approved by the student's academic advisor, the Department Chair, the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering, and the Certification Officer of the College of Education and Human Development for the degree to be granted.

- Biology, BS - Grades 7-12 Life Science Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/biology-bs-grades-7-12-life-science-education-concentration/) (120-122 sem. hrs.)
- Chemistry, BS - Grades 7-12 Physical Science Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/chemistry-bs-grades-7-12-physical-science-education-concentration/) (126-128 sem. hrs.)
- Environmental Science, BS - Grades 4-8 Science Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/environmental-science-bs-grades-4-8-science-education-concentration/) (125-130 sem. hrs.)
- Elementary Education, BS - Grades 4-8 with Mathematics Certification (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/teaching-certificates/elementary-education-bs-grades-4-8-mathematics-certification/) (College of Education and Human Development)
- Mathematics, BS - Grades 7-12 Mathematics Education Concentration (http://catalog.tamucc.edu/undergraduate/science-engineering/bachelors/mathematics-bs-grades-7-12-education-concentration/) (120 sem. hrs.)

Mathematics 7-12 teacher certification is also possible with an undergraduate major other than mathematics. Details immediately follow the BS in Mathematics listing.