



College of Education and Human Development

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Exit Policy Dismissal of Candidates from the Reading Specialist Preparation Program

TAC §228.31(b): All EPPs shall have a published exit policy for dismissal of candidates that is reviewed and signed by candidates upon admission. The exit policy must identify a point of dismissal for inactive candidates after no more than two years of inactivity. An inactive candidate is one who is no longer completing coursework, training, and testing requirements with an EPP and is not a completer of the EPP.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is committed to educating, graduating, and certifying candidates who will be effective leaders. Evidence of potential effectiveness includes academic, professional, and personal qualities. Reading Specialist candidates are carefully assessed throughout the educator preparation program for leadership skills and successful course completion. If a candidate's overall GPA falls below the required GPA or other issues arise concerning a candidate's fitness, ability, and/or demonstration of the ability to lead, the Reading Specialist candidate may be dismissed from the program.

Reasons candidates may be removed from the Reading Specialist Preparation Program may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Failure to maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average and failure to meet course requirements
- Standard of Conduct/Educator Code of Ethics violation (RULE §247.2)
- Criminal Background Check that precludes placement
- Failure to make continual progress towards program completion and lack of progress towards demonstrating Reading Specialist Domains and Competencies
- Non-adherence to the Reading Specialist Certification Handbook
- Failure to respond to feedback from Site or Field Supervisor and University Reading Specialist Program Coordinator
- **Lack of program participation for two (2) or more years:** To continue program participation after a break in enrollment requires the following: 1) new application; 2) meeting all admission requirements; 3) completing new set of TEA forms; 4) pay additional TEA Fee (\$35); 5) new acceptance letter
- School/district refuses to accept the student for practicum experience
- School/district requests that the candidate be removed from a practicum assignment

Procedures for removing a student from the Reading Specialist Preparation Program

- Dismissal due to violation of established admissions or continuation criteria the Reading Specialist Program Coordinator will notify the student in writing of grounds for dismissal.
- Dismissal due to school principal recommendation must be submitted within 10 days of placement or if an incident has occurred. The request must include the criteria below:
 - requires a written request to terminate the placement generated by the school principal;
 - reasons for terminating placement; and
 - submitted to both: the Certification Coordinator (CertOfficeRR@tamucc.edu) & Reading Specialist Program Coordinator

Once a request is received and reviewed, the following will occur:

- A meeting will be scheduled to inform the candidate of the decision to terminate placement and dismiss the student.
- A formal letter of dismissal from the Reading Specialist Preparation Program will be sent to the candidate from the Program Coordinator.

Due Process Rights in the Principal Preparation Program

Students who wish to appeal admissions or retention criteria may schedule a meeting with the Associate Dean for Educator Preparation Programs to ask that an individual exception be made. The student must follow the Texas A&M University-CC College of Education and Human Development Due Process and Complaint Resolution Policy Procedures found at: <http://education.tamucc.edu/index.html>

I have read, understand, and agree to the expectations for performance and Exit Policy for Dismissal from the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Reading Specialist Preparation Program as described in this document and in accordance with **TAC §228.31(b)**.

Printed Name

A#

Signature

Date