

Stephen F. Austin State University  
Educator Preparation Program  
Exit Policy

**Exit Policy for Certification Programs**

The state requires all educator preparation programs to have an exit policy for the dismissal of candidates that is published, reviewed, and signed by candidates when they are admitted to the program. The requirement is found in 19 TAC §228.20(h).

**Dismissal from the Educator Preparation Program**

Initial and professional certification candidates may be removed from the Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU) Educator Preparation Program (EPP) when candidates demonstrate behavior inconsistent with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions expected of teachers and leaders in Texas. Dismissal from the program may be based on grounds including but not limited to:

1. Failure to meet coursework requirements.
2. Failure to abide by policies and/or procedures established by the SFASU EPP and/or program requirements established by the State Board for Educator Certification as published in the Texas Administrative Code.
3. Failure to abide by the SFASU Professional Dispositions Statement for Educator Preparation.
4. Any action deemed a violation of TAC 247.2 - Code of Ethics and Standard Practices for Texas Educators, and/or;
5. Any action deemed a violation of the SFASU Student Code of Conduct; and/or;
6. Any action deemed a violation of school district and/or campus policy during field-based experiences, clinical teaching, internship, or practicum.

Dismissal from the program is determined by a committee composed of the program faculty. Dismissal may occur at any time. Candidates who are dismissed from SFASU will be automatically dismissed from the EPP. All decisions of dismissal can be appealed following University policies.

**Withdrawal from the Educator Preparation Program**

A candidate who voluntarily decides to withdraw from the EPP must send a written notice of that intent from a SFASU email account and include their SFASU Campus ID in that email. The candidate also must submit a signed Texas Education Transfer Form if they transfer to another EPP. Withdrawal from the University constitutes automatic withdrawal from the EPP.