



# TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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TO: Directors of Financial Aid  
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Arlington, Texas A&M - Commerce, and the Texas Tech University-Tech  
Teach Program in the Dallas-Fort Worth area

FROM: DeChà Reid  
Director, Financial Aid Services

DATE: August 3, 2020

RE: Updated 2020-21 Bilingual Education Program Guidelines

Enclosed are the updated 2020-21 Bilingual Education Program Guidelines that include clarification regarding eligibility requirements for the program. One of the requirements to receive an award of program funds is that qualified students must **successfully pass** the State Board for Educator Certification Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has received several inquiries from institutions asking whether students could qualify for financial assistance through the Bilingual Education Program by taking an exam comparable to the State Board for Educator Certification Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test or by passing a practice exam.

Based on these inquiries, the THECB sought the opinion of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). The OAG's opinion is that students must pass the State Board for Educator Certification Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test to receive funds under the Bilingual Education Program. Passing a practice test or a comparable examination **does not** satisfy the requirement to qualify for funds. The updated 2020-21 program guidelines include a link to the OAG opinion.

If you have questions about the OAG opinion, please email Financial Aid Services through [CONTACT US](#) (select "Financial Aid Question" as the Contact Reason).

**Enclosed:** [Updated 2020-21 Bilingual Education Program Guidelines](#)