

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE  
TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION  
SUBTITLE D. EDUCATORS AND SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS  
CHAPTER 21. EDUCATORS  
SUBCHAPTER B. CERTIFICATION OF EDUCATORS

**TEC, §21.046. QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION AS SUPERINTENDENT OR PRINCIPAL.**

- (a) The qualifications for superintendent must permit a candidate for certification to substitute management training or experience for part of the educational experience.
- (b) The qualifications for certification as a principal must be sufficiently flexible so that an outstanding teacher may qualify by substituting approved experience and professional training for part of the educational requirements. Supervised and approved on-the-job experience in addition to required internship shall be accepted in lieu of classroom hours. The qualifications must emphasize:
  - (1) instructional leadership, including the ability to create an inclusive school environment and to foster parent involvement;
  - (2) administration, supervision, and communication skills;
  - (3) curriculum and instruction management, including curriculum and instruction management for students with disabilities;
  - (4) performance evaluation;
  - (5) organization; and
  - (6) fiscal management.
- (c) Because an effective principal is essential to school improvement, the board shall ensure that:
  - (1) each candidate for certification as a principal is of the highest caliber; and
  - (2) multi-level screening processes, validated comprehensive assessment programs, and flexible internships with successful mentors exist to determine whether a candidate for certification as a principal possesses the essential knowledge, skills, and leadership capabilities necessary for success.
- (d) In creating the qualifications for certification as a principal, the board shall consider the knowledge, skills, and proficiencies for principals as developed by relevant national organizations and the State Board of Education.
- (e) For purposes of satisfying eligibility requirements for certification as a principal, a teacher who is certified under Section [21.0487](#):
  - (1) is considered to hold a classroom teaching certificate; and
  - (2) may apply as creditable years of teaching experience as a classroom teacher any period during which the teacher was employed by a school district as a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor before or after the teacher was certified under Section [21.0487](#).

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 260, Sec. 1, eff. May 30, 1995.

Amended by:

Acts 2015, 84th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1194 (S.B. [1309](#)), Sec. 2, eff. June 19, 2015.

Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 215 (H.B. [159](#)), Sec. 6, eff. September 1, 2021.