

University of Houston's Alternative Certification Program (ACP) Info Session 2025



Today's speaker



Shenise Gatson
Participant Success Manager
University of Houston



Leadership Team



Dr. Amber Thompson

Clinical Professor &
Associate Chair, Teacher Education
University of Houston



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Clinical Professor &
Director of Teacher Education
University of Houston



Your Certification Expert



Sana Thalho

Texas Teaching Certification
University of Houston



What does ACP mean?

- Alternative (*accelerated*) Certification Program
- Teach while you work on completing certification
- Start teaching August 2025, complete certification by August 2026





Traditional cert vs alternative cert

- Traditional route
- Teach in TX while gaining certification
 - Full-time salary
 - Benefits



Why does ACP exist?

Teacher shortages

UH ACP addresses teacher shortages in Texas. It also supports the need for specific subjects or areas.

Career change

UH ACP enables people with a bachelor's degree in another field to become teachers. For example, a chemical engineer could become a chemistry teacher, or a lawyer could teach social studies.

Cost and time

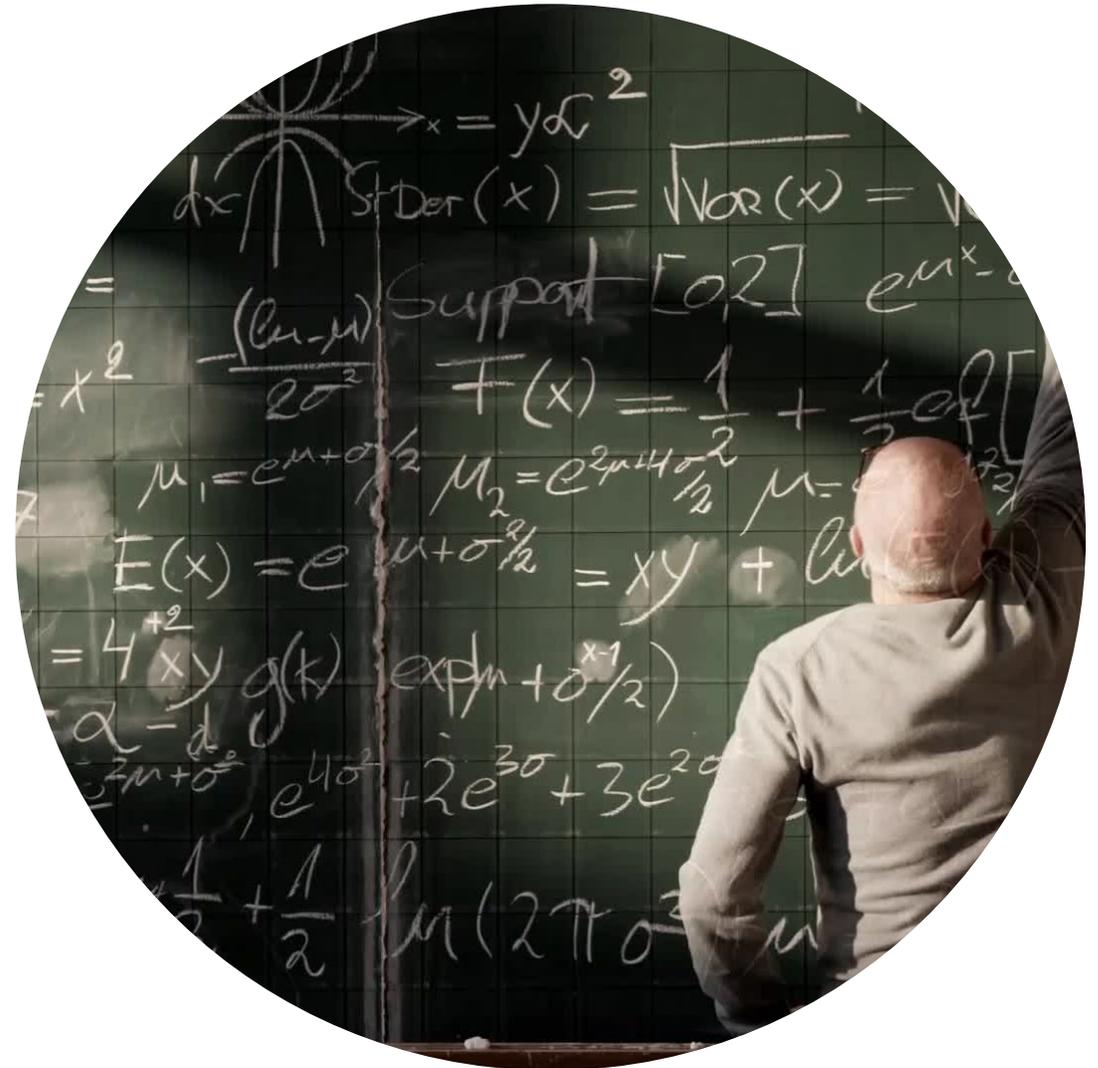
UH ACP is an affordable program that is completed much faster than traditional education programs.

Flexible scheduling

UH ACP offer courses online and on weekends, making them more accessible for working people.

Professional development

UH ACP includes ongoing professional development and support for beginning teachers.



Why teach?



TEACHERS MATTER



QUALITY OF LIFE

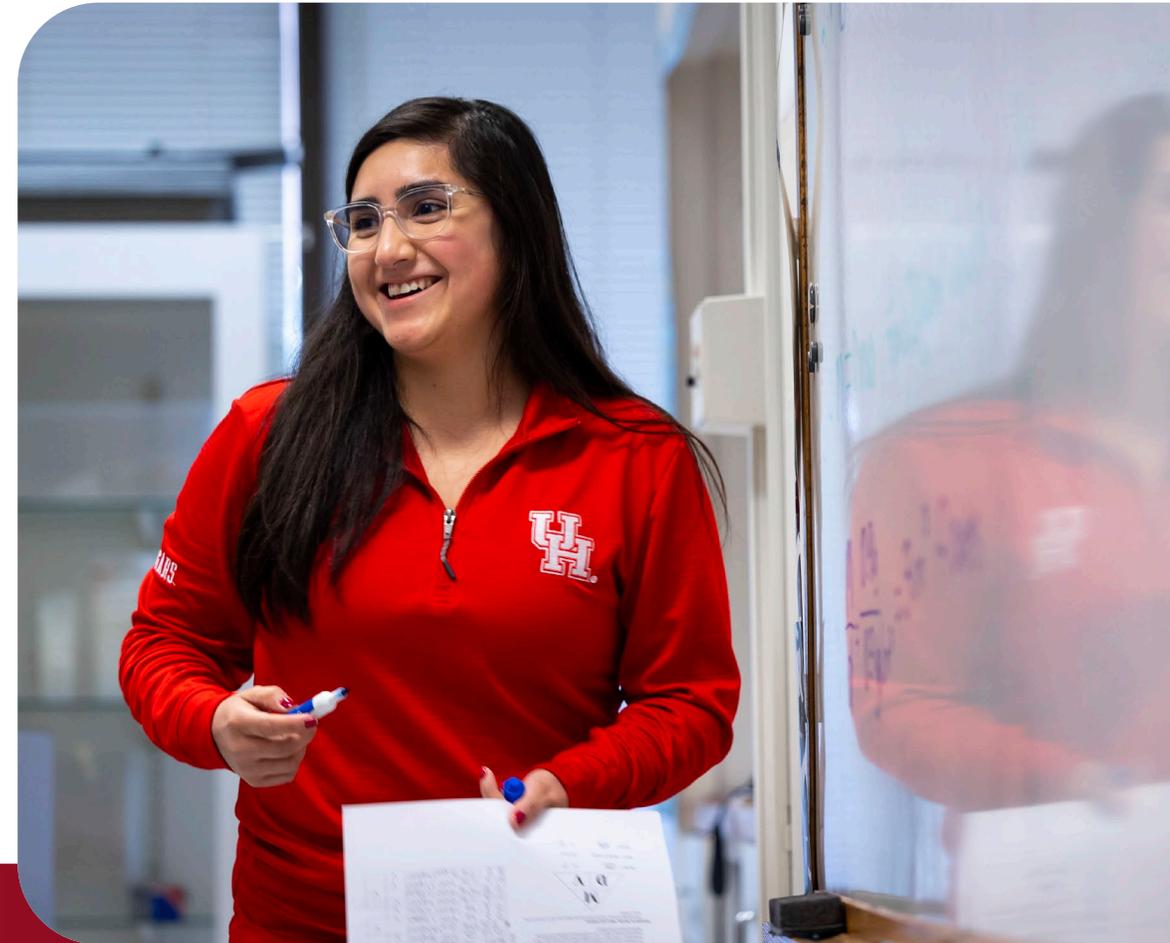


FINANCIAL BENEFITS



What is needed to teach in Texas?

1. A bachelor's degree
2. Educator prep program
3. Complete certification
4. Apply to teach
5. Background check



UH ACP Requirements

- ✓ Bachelor's degree by June 2025
- ✓ 2.5 GPA
- ✓ All previous official transcripts
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ 12-15 Content Hours
 - EC-6 (elementary): 12 hours total of math, history, and English
 - 4-8, 7-12 English/history: 12 hours
 - 4-8, 7-12 Math/science: 15 hours
 - *You most likely have already completed these hours within your bachelor's degree*

International degree?
Watch this [brief video](#) on how
to apply



81% of UH education certifications are teaching certifications.



At UH, we've certified over 4,500 educators and this cohort will soon add to that number.

Job Placement

- We'll **support** you through the entire process.
- Being flexible with your grade levels and subjects will help you **land a job** faster!
- **Benefit** from our trusted district partnerships.



2024 cohort had 98% job placement

UH competitors and pay-for-play programs

- Ensure TEA-approved
- Experience educators
- Prep for certification test

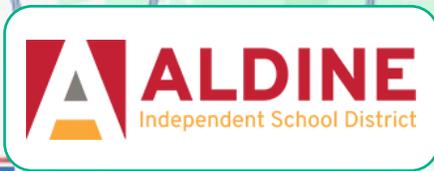




HUMBLE
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
Established 1919



CYPRESS FAIRBANKS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
LEARN • EMPOWER • ACHIEVE • DREAM



ALDINE
Independent School District

Seven additional partners added for 2025!



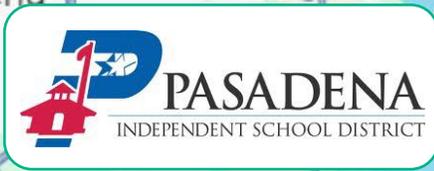
Spring Branch
Independent School District



HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Alief
Independent School District



PASADENA
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



GOOSE CREEK
CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



LAMAR CISD
A PROUD TRADITION | A BRIGHT FUTURE



FBISD
INSPIRE • EQUIP • IMAGINE



Pearland Independent School District
PREPARE • PERFORM • PRODUCE

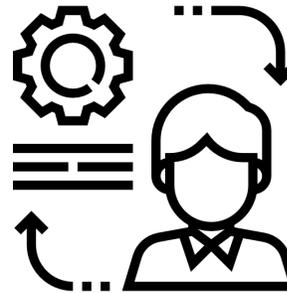


ALVIN ISD
Each student, every day.

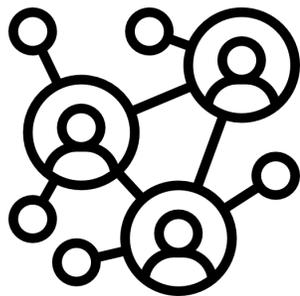
Program Components



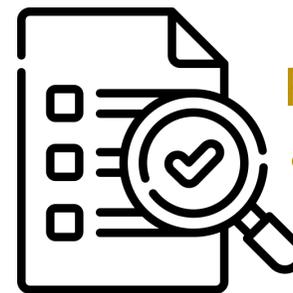
UH faculty member
will coach and
support you.



Learn and practice
teaching in a **supportive**
and **professional** setting.



Train and teach with
a **cohort** of fellow
ACP students.



Receive test prep
and support with
certification.



Timeline

New year 2025

- ✓ Test prep
- ✓ Field experiences
- ✓ Saturday sessions
- ✓ Online coursework

Spring 2025

- ✓ June in-person sessions
- ✓ Intern certification
- ✓ Apply to district

Academic year (AY) 2025 - 2026

- ✓ You're a teacher!
(full-time salary)
- ✓ Saturday sessions
- ✓ Online coursework continued

Summer 2026

- ✓ Gain your certification!



In-Person Workshop Options

Face-to-Face Workshops 2025		Spring Option (Early Start)	Summer Option
1	Assessment	Sat., March 22	Mon., June 16
2	Planning for Instruction	Sat., April 12	Wed., June 18
3	Special Education and IEP Process	Sat., April 26	Fri., June 20 or Mon., June 23
4	Delivering Instruction <i>*Must be taken after Session 3 - Assessment</i>	Sat., May 3	Fri., June 20 or Mon., June 23
5	Monitor and Adjust Instruction	Sat., May 31	Wed., June 25
6	Setting the Stage	N/A	Mon., June 9
7	Building Positive Relationships	N/A	Wed., June 11
8	Establishing Routines for a Positive Learning Environment	N/A	Fri., June 13
9	Performance Assessment and Internship Launching	N/A	Fri., June 27



Program payment structure

Date	Payment
Application fee	\$0
Enrollment fee (early access to Canvas, online coursework)	\$250 (1 payment)
Spring 2025	\$250 (4 payments)
<i>August</i>	<i>START TEACHING FULL-TIME</i>
Academic year 2025 - 2026	\$500 (10 payments)
Total cost:	\$6,250



Program cost

Item	Cost
Application fee	\$0
UH ACP Program	\$6,250
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Can be made in payments</i>• <i>No interest</i>• <i>No ongoing fees</i>• <i>Most school districts offer payroll deduction</i>	



Additional costs to consider

Item	Payment
2025 Intern Certificate	\$78
Fingerprinting and background check	\$50.25
TExES Exam(s) (including PPR exam)	\$116
2026 Standard Certificate	\$78



Next steps - [apply!](#)

Application fee: **\$0**

Apply today
Space is limited!



Application Prep

- Review the [Texas Administrative Code of Ethics](#) (sections 247.1 and 247.2)
 - *Estimated time: 15 minutes*
- Watch the [TEA Teacher Ethics Training Series](#) (10 short videos)
 - *Estimated time: 1 hour*
- Prepare and record your admission video. [Learn what is needed here.](#)
 - *Estimated time: 20 minutes*



Reminder: Requirements

- ✓ Bachelor's degree by June 2025
- ✓ 2.5 GPA
- ✓ All previous official transcripts
 - UHACP@central.uh.edu
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ 12-15 Content Hours



Congratulations!

- You've taken the first step towards a rewarding career in education!
- Don't forget — **we're here for you!**
- Email us anytime at: **uhacp@central.uh.edu**

