

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

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

# Traditional cert vs alternative cert

- Traditional route
- Teachers are at a deficit
- Teach in TX while gaining certification
  - Full-time salary
  - Benefits



## What does ACP mean?

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

# 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

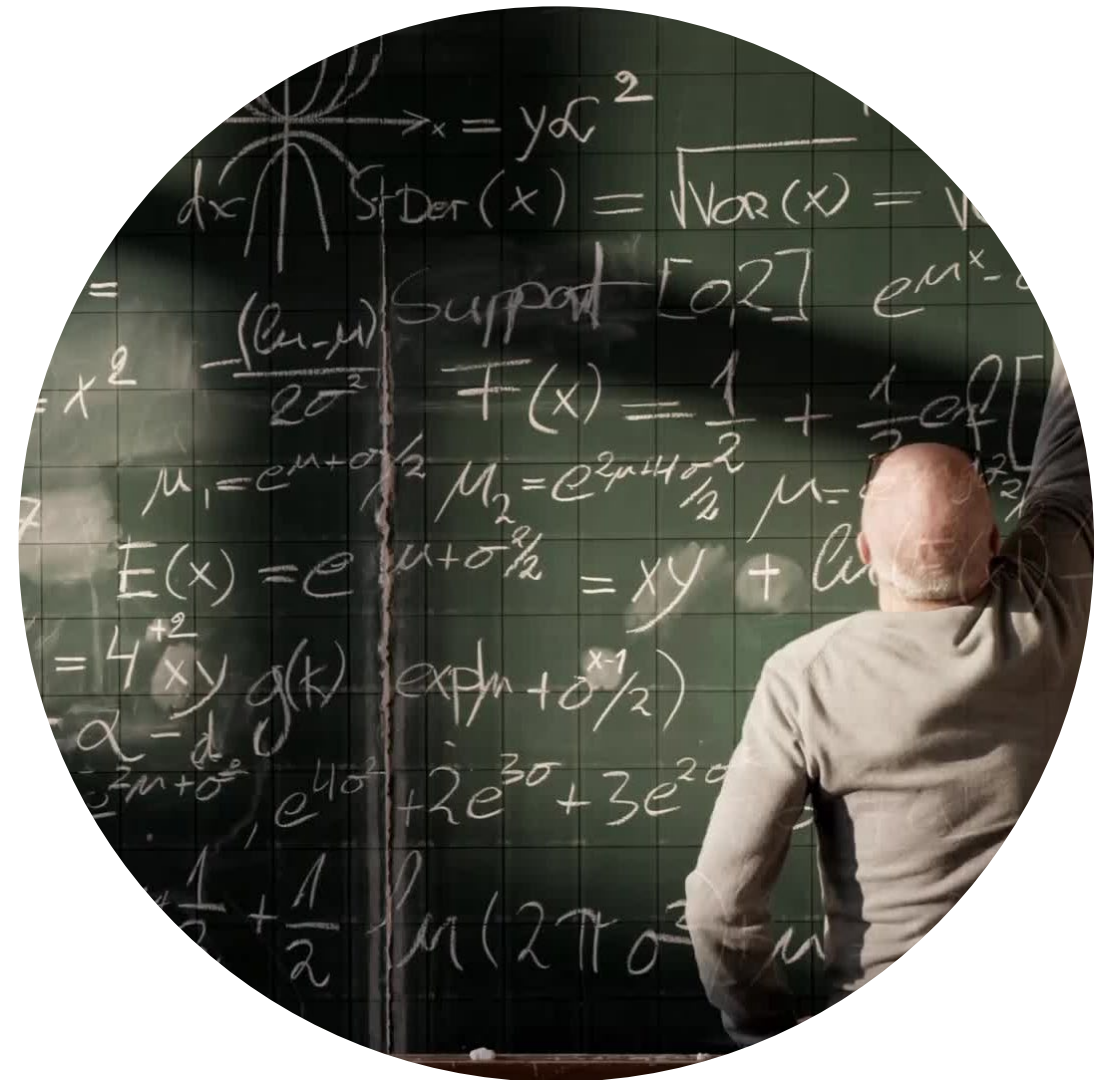
UH ACP is an affordable program that is completed much faster than traditional education programs.

## 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.



## UH ACP Benefits

- Begin paid teaching in August '25
- UH site coordinator to coach you
- Professional development based on district curriculum
- Certification tutoring, prep, and guidance
- TEA-approved program

# Why teach?



**TEACHERS MATTER**



**QUALITY OF LIFE**



**FINANCIAL BENEFITS**

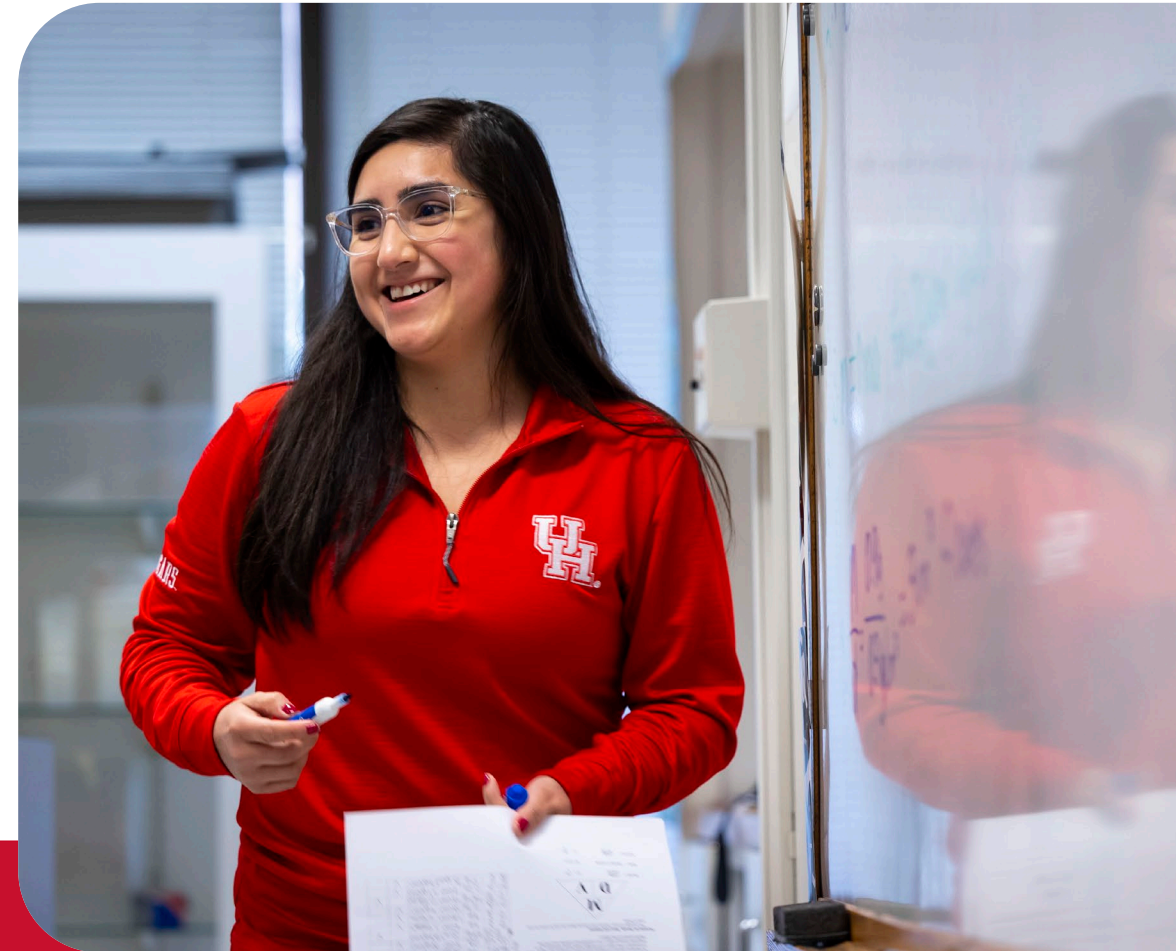
# UH competitors and pay-for-play programs

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




# 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

# Leadership Team



**Dr. Amber Thompson**

Clinical Professor &  
Associate Chair, Teacher Education  
University of Houston



**Dr. Shea Culpepper**

Clinical Professor &  
Director of Teacher Education  
University of Houston

# Your Certification Expert



**Sana Thalho**

Texas Teaching Certification  
University of Houston

# Your Success Manager



**Shenise Gatson**  
Participant Success Manager  
University of Houston

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.



**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!**



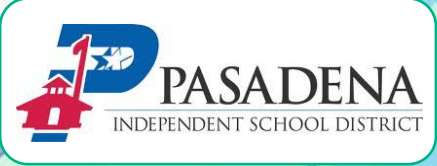
**Spring Branch**  
Independent School District



**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.

# Job Placement

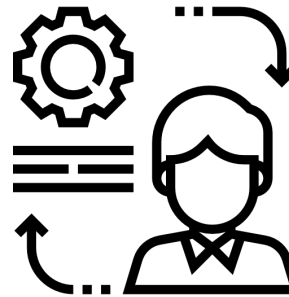
- We'll **support** you through the entire process.
- Being flexible with your grade levels and subjects will help you **land a job** faster!
- **Benefit** from our trusted district partnerships.



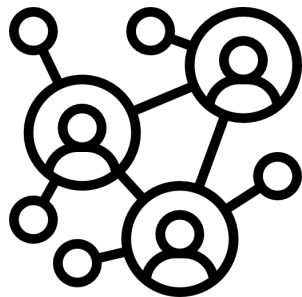
# Program Components



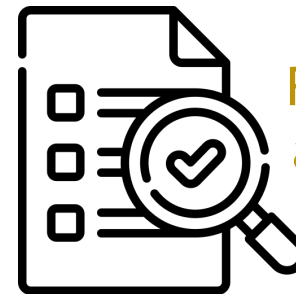
UH faculty member  
will coach and  
support you.



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 June Intensive

## Face-to-Face Workshops 2025

## Spring Option (Early Start)

## Summer Option

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

# Program cost

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

# Additional costs to consider

Item	Payment
2025 Intern Certificate	\$78
<a href="#">Fingerprinting and background check</a>	\$50.25
<a href="#">TExES Exam(s)</a> (including PPR exam)	\$116
2026 Standard Certificate	\$78

## Next steps - apply!

- Priority deadline: Sunday, December 1
- Admission date: Monday, January 6
- 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*

# Congratulations!

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- 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](mailto:uhacp@central.uh.edu)

