

Elementary Education Gifted/Talented



The graduate program in gifted/talented education at Texas State University-San Marcos is designed for educators who seek to combine advanced studies in elementary education with specialized studies in gifted education and talent development. The program promotes talent development and meaningful, challenging learning experiences for all children.

Students who major in elementary education-gifted/talented develop both conceptual principles and practical skills for maximizing learning, developing talent and enhancing creativity. Courses in the program emphasize research and theory and strive to develop practical strategies, personal growth, cross-cultural understanding and collective responsibility.

Courses in this program enhance the knowledge and skills of classroom teachers, gifted/talented program facilitators, teacher leaders and district coordinators.

TEXAS  STATE
UNIVERSITY
SAN MARCOS

The rising STAR of Texas

A member of The Texas State University System



Admission Policy

Applicants must meet the Texas State Graduate College's minimum GPA requirement of 2.75 for the last 60 hours of course work leading to the bachelor's degree. No GRE score is required. Applicants must possess initial teaching certification, preferably at the elementary or middle grades level.

Each applicant must submit the following to the Graduate College at Texas State:

- an official Texas State Graduate College application form
- one official transcript from each college or university attended, including community colleges

Applicants also must submit, directly to the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, a written statement of purpose that describes their interests within the major, why Texas State's program is a good fit for them, their future plans, and other aspects of their experience and accomplishments that may assist the admissions committee.

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu for access to an online application and additional details. Applications are due June 15 for the fall semester and October 15 for the spring semester. The Graduate College will continue to process applications received after these deadlines; however, those applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, with no guarantees of admission.

Financial Assistance

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction offers a variety of scholarships made available by generous donors. Contact the department for application details.

For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit the Graduate College Web site at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on *Financing your Graduate Education*.

Contact

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Course Work

Texas State offers a master of education degree and a master of arts degree with a major in elementary education-gifted/talented. Elementary education at Texas State includes prekindergarten through the eighth grade.

Master of Education with a Major in Elementary Education-Gifted/Talented

This 36-semester-hour program requires 15 hours in gifted/talented studies; 12 hours in educational research, pedagogy, and elementary or middle grades curriculum; and nine hours in an approved minor.

Master of Arts with a Major in Elementary Education-Gifted/Talented

This 30-semester-hour program, which includes a written thesis, has been designed for experienced teachers who want to pursue research in gifted/talented education.

Required Courses

- Introduction to Gifted/Talented Education
- Talent Development
- Creativity: Theories, Research and Applications
- Social, Emotional and Cultural Contexts of Advanced Development
- Practicum in Gifted Education

“The course work in the gifted and talented program at Texas State prepared me to handle all aspects of gifted and talented education, including instruction, assessment and understanding social, emotional and cultural issues. The practicum gave me the opportunity to practice and build on the skills that I had learned. After completing the program, I was truly ready to effectively teach gifted children and to nurture talent in all children.”

—Kirsten Anderson
elementary education-
gifted and talented
program alumna