

**Application for Delay  
Implementing HB2 Teacher Certification Requirements  
February 16, 2026**

**House Bill 2: Teacher Certification Requirements**

- new limitations on school districts' ability to waive teacher certification requirements for foundational curriculum courses within their District of Innovation (DOI) plan

Implementation Timeline

- 2026-2027: Districts can no longer include K-5 reading and math teachers in DOI plan exemptions
  - 2027-2028: Districts can no longer include foundational subject teachers (i.e., reading/English language arts, math, science, and social studies) in any grade level in DOI plan exemptions
- permits an extension application to be filed; if granted, would extend requirements for all foundational teachers to be fully certified no later than the 2029-30 school year
  - notification of extension approval will take place by March 31, 2026

**Impact at Sterling City ISD**

- Currently, 3 PK-12<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are not fully certified.
  - 1 is degreed and enrolled in an Alternative Certification Program (ACP)
  - 1 is degreed and has been granted a good-cause waiver/test-limit waiver
  - 1 has less than 60 college hours and is actively pursuing a degree

Denial of this extension would likely result in the loss of these 3 teachers.

**What must be included in the TEA application?**

- Total number of uncertified teachers assigned to teach foundation curriculum courses in 2025–2026
- Identification of at least one Education Preparation Program (EPP) partner who will support certification efforts and help reduce the district's percentage of uncertified teachers
- Date of Board approval to submit the application
- Web link to the board meeting agenda where the plan for delaying certification requirements was approved
- Web link to the board-approved transition plan District Transition Support for Certification

## **District Transition Support for Certification**

- Administration reviewed certification requirements and timelines with teachers currently enrolled in Alternative Certification Programs.
- Administration monitored teacher certification status during the fall and will continue to do so in the spring.
- Administration held discussions in the fall of 2025 to review the status of uncertified teachers.
- Administration is available to teachers who want to schedule individual meetings for support or questions.
- Campus administrators held individual meetings in the fall semester of 2025 with uncertified staff members to discuss and develop plans for program completion, testing for certification, and retesting opportunities.

## **Education Preparation Program Partner**

iteach Texas

iteach Texas is a non-college provider accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) that serves the following audiences:

- those with Bachelor's degrees in any field aspiring to teach
- paraprofessionals, teacher assistants, and substitutes