



# Teacher Education Benchmarks 1 and 2

2023-2024

## Why Benchmarks?

- ▶ For students to be recommended to **The Texas Education Agency** for certification, Concordia University Texas has to keep evidence that you have met specific requirements.
- ▶ This is our process to ensure that we can recommend you upon graduation

# How do the Benchmarks Work?

- ▶ You will complete one benchmark per year and each one provides you admission into the next level of your program
  - ▶ Benchmark 1: Admission into the College of Education
  - ▶ Benchmark 2: Admission into the Teacher Education program (and prerequisite to the first practicum)
  - ▶ Benchmark 3: Admission into the Second Practicum
  - ▶ Benchmark 4: Admission into the Professional Semester (Clinical Teaching)

# Benchmark 1 – Requirements for Admission to the College of Education

- ▶ Philosophy of Education Essay
- ▶ Diagnostic Exam for content area (with a proctor)
- ▶ 15 Hours of Fieldwork
- ▶ Written Reflections on fieldwork experiences
- ▶ Application Submitted

# Benchmark 1 - Paperwork

- ▶ All of your benchmark documents need to be uploaded to a course called **CERTIFICATION PREPARATION** in BB! (not just the Intro to Ed class.)
  - ▶ Philosophy of Education Essay (**PDF**)
  - ▶ Score report for diagnostic exam for content area
  - ▶ **SIGNED** Fieldwork Log
  - ▶ Fieldwork Reflections (all one document **PDF**)
  - ▶ Submit **Application** upon completion of Intro to Education

# Benchmark 1 – FAQ's

**Q:** When do I complete Benchmark 1?

**A:** During Introduction to Education

**Q:** What if I transferred in Intro to Education?

**A:** You should have completed these assignments at your prior school. Locate and upload them to the CERTIFICATION PREPARATION course.

**Q:** What if I did not do fieldwork in my Intro to Education Class?

**A:** You will need to take it again.

**Q:** What if I lost my documentation?

**A:** Re-create it and get it signed.

## Benchmark 2 Requirements for Admission to the Teacher Education Program

- ▶ Interview with your advisor and another education professor
- ▶ Request recommendation form to be completed by an education professor
- ▶ Request recommendation form to be completed by a content professor in your area of certification (ENG, Math, Science, SS, Music)
- ▶ Complete **95%** of the Tutorials for certification practice exams in 240 Tutoring
- ▶ Score 65% or better on the **Full-Length** practice exam in 240 Tutoring with a proctor
- ▶ Submit Application by week 4 of the semester prior to your first practicum

# Benchmark 2 Paperwork

- ▶ The following documents need to be uploaded to the **CERTIFICATION PREPARATION** course in BB:
  - ▶ Rubric from your Interview
  - ▶ Tutorial report from **240 Tutoring** showing 95% completion of the Tutorials for certification practice exams for Content
  - ▶ Score report from **240 Tutoring** showing 65% or better on the Full-Length Content practice exam



## Benchmark 2 – FAQ's

**Q:** When do I complete Benchmark 2?

**A:** Sophomore year

**Q:** Where do I get the recommendation form to give my profs?

**A:** In the CERTIFICATION PREPARATION course in BB under B2.

**Q:** Why are the recommendations not listed in the paperwork?

**A:** Your professors will email those directly to the chair of the department who will mark them complete after they are received.

**Q:** What if I do not complete the tutorials in 240 Tutoring?

**A:** You will not be able to take the exam – the program locks you out until you have completed 95% of the tutorials

## Benchmark 2 – FAQ's continued

**Q:** What if I do not score 65% on my practice exam?

**A:** You may take it again – we offer proctored exams several times a year

**Q:** What if I take the exam on my own – not with the proctor?

**A:** It will not count and you only get 3 attempts, so you will probably have to purchase another testing platform on your own.

**Q:** When do I have to get accepted to benchmark 2?

**A:** It is best to do by the end of sophomore year. You will not be able to register for any practicum classes (starting Junior year) if you have not met this benchmark.