



TEXAS ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE TEXAS ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION (TACA)

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this Association shall be the TEXAS ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION (TACA).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Association is to provide through professional organization and cooperation the continuous search for and promotion of ideas and practices that are most effective in alternative routes to certification for educators. This Association is to serve as the voice for alternative certification in the state of Texas, representing those who seek excellence in education and providing a vehicle for all alternative certification programs in the state to work together for the improvement and enhancement of the quality of alternative routes to certification for educators. The major objectives of this association are as follows:

- A. To provide means for continuous exchange of information, experiences, and judgments concerning all aspects of alternative routes to certification for educators;
- B. To stimulate and facilitate research, experimentation, and evaluation of alternative routes to certification for educators and related problems of learning and teaching;
- C. To serve as a clearinghouse for appropriate information and reports and to publicize findings of studies that have significance for alternative routes to certification for educators;
- D. To cooperate and collaborate with professional and related organizations and agencies in activities designed to improve alternative routes to certification for educators;
- E. To maintain effective communications and serve as liaison between the Texas Education Agency, the State Board for Educator Certification, and other state offices;
- F. To assist institutions, in-state and out, who desire professional assistance in establishing alternative routes to certification for educators;

G. To provide a vehicle for alternative teacher education programs in Texas to develop and define positions on issues of importance to alternative routes to certification for educators;

H. To influence and recommend policies, programs, and activities which impact on alternative routes to certification for educators in Texas;

I. To positively present and represent alternative routes to certification for educators to various publics in a way that ensures effective communication and conveyance of the appropriate image of alternative routes to certification for educators;

J. To establish, promote, and adhere to quality standards in alternative routes to certification for educators.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

The Association will have two levels of members: Individual and Organizational. The Executive Committee shall monitor and recommend eligibility requirements for membership in the Association.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

A. The officers shall be the President, Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer.

B. The President and Vice-President/President-Elect shall each serve a two-year term; the Secretary shall be elected to serve a two-year term; the Treasurer shall serve a three-year term. Elections shall be held at the annual spring meeting with those elected assuming office following that meeting.

C. The officers, along with the immediate Past President, shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Association. The Executive Committee shall appoint those committees which are necessary for carrying out the purposes of the Association.

D. Each officer shall be a dues-paying member of this organization. Holding an office in TACA is terminated at the time the officer discontinues membership.

ARTICLE V: DUES

Dues shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the Association's eligible members, voting at a regularly-scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE VI: FINANCES

The Association is not organized for profit and no part of its funds shall be used for the benefit of any individual member(s), organization, or institution. The fiscal year for this Association shall begin on September 1 of each year.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS

Proposed amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee. After approval by a majority of the Committee, such amendment must be mailed to all members at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which it is to be voted. Proposed amendments require a two-thirds vote of the votes cast to become part of the Constitution.

TEXAS ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: OFFICERS

A. President

The President shall preside at all regular and special Association meetings and all meetings of the Executive Committee. The President with the Executive Committee shall appoint all committees not otherwise provided for and assume primary responsibility for the activities and programs of the Association and general welfare of the Association. The President shall, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, appoint members to fill Association offices for which vacancies may occur during the President's term of office.

B. Vice-President/President-Elect

The Vice-President/President-Elect shall preside at all meetings of the Association in the absence of the President and shall perform all other such duties as may be assigned by the President. In the event the presidency is vacated, the Vice-President/President-Elect shall assume the office of the President and all the duties of that office. At the annual spring meeting concluding the President's two-year term, the Vice-President/President-Elect shall assume the office of the President.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep minutes of all regular Association meetings and all meetings of the Executive Committee and shall present such minutes for approval at the next regular meeting of the Association.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall collect all Association dues and be responsible for all Association monies collected and distributed. This officer shall be authorized to disburse funds for receipts and disbursements of the Association, shall report on the financial condition of the Association at each regular business meeting, and shall prepare financial records for audit at the time of each spring meeting. The Treasurer shall serve a three-year term without opportunity for re-election.

E. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and the immediate Past-president of the Association.

ARTICLE II: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for establishing and approving the budget for the Association. The Committee shall meet on call of the President to assist in the planning and conduct of the business of the Association. The Committee shall be empowered to pass upon routine matters of Association business between regular Association meetings.

Other standing committees may be established by vote of the membership or the Executive Committee.

B. Audit Committee

An independent Audit Committee shall be appointed by the President to audit the financial accounts of the Association at the close of each annual spring meeting. This committee shall consist of three members who are not currently members of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be available to assist the Audit Committee.

C. Ad Hoc Committees

Temporary or ad hoc committees may be appointed from time to time for such purposes as determined either by the membership of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III: MEETING TIMES

The Association will hold regular meetings during the fall and spring of each year. Other special meetings can be called by the President or the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

A. Individual Membership – Open to all Texas educators who subscribe to the concept and professionalization of alternative routes to certification for educators. Individual members exercise full voting rights.

B. Organizational Membership – Provides up to eight individual memberships at a reduced fee.

ARTICLE V: BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

By-laws may be adopted or amended by the Executive Committee subject to a majority vote of members present and voting at a regular or special meeting.