



Educational Aide Exemption Information

To All Qualified Employees (who have at least one year of service as a certified Instructional Aide):

House Bill 571, passed by the 75th Legislature, created a college tuition and partial fee exemption program for certified educational aides who attend a public institution of higher education in Texas to become a certified teacher.

New Braunfels I.S.D. encourages all of its qualified educational aides to take advantage of this opportunity to become Texas certified teachers.

According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, to apply for the Educational Aide Exemption Program, individuals must:

- *Have applied for financial aid through the college to be attended, including filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid through the college to be attended or by qualifying on the basis of adjusted gross income,*
- *Are residents of Texas,*
- *Have at least one school year experience as an educational aide during the five years preceding the term or semester for which the individual receives the award*,*
- *Be a school employee serving in any capacity,*
- *Will be enrolled in courses required for teacher certification at the time they receive the exemption, and*
- *Meet the academic progress requirements of the college's financial aid office.*

Applications for this exemption program are available from the NBISD Personnel Office, the financial aid office of the college the aide will attend, or from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board at 1-800-242-3062 x6387.

Several area public universities and community colleges participate in the Educational Aide Exemption Program:

Palo Alto College	(210) 921-5320
Southwest Texas State University	(512) 245-2315
San Antonio College	(210) 733-2979
St. Phillips' College	(210) 531-3272
The University of Texas at San Antonio	(210) 691-4635
The University of Texas at Austin	(512) 475-6203
Virtual College of Texas [#]	www.vct.org

For further information, please contact Shannon Bermel in the New Braunfels ISD Personnel Office at 830-643-5726.

*Substitute Teachers who have at least 180 days experience as a substitute during the past five (5) years may now participate in the program.

[#]Internet courses offered through Pal Alto College, San Antonio College, or St. Phillips' College.
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