

Description of Programs Relating to School Readiness

Texas Early Education Model

The State Center for Early Childhood Development (State Center) at the University of Texas Health Science Center designed the Texas Early Education Model (TEEM). TEEM encourages school readiness programs to share certified teachers and to integrate facility space; professional development; and funding from Child Care, Head Start, and prekindergarten sources. The critical instructional components of TEEM include:

- research-based curriculum;
- ongoing professional development with in-classroom mentoring; and
- personal digital assistant progress monitoring.

For additional information about the TEEM pilots, contact Susan Gunnewig at (713) 500-3575 or visit <http://www.uth.tmc.edu/circle>.

Boards may refer to the Texas Education Agency's (TEA) adopted list of research-based curricula, with strong literacy components, approved by the State Center. The list is available on the TEA Web site at:

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/textbooks/materials/index.html>

Texas Rising Star Provider

A Texas Rising Star Provider is a child care provider that voluntarily meets requirements that exceed the state's minimum licensing standards for health and safety, group size, child/staff ratios, caregiver training, and age-appropriate curricula and activities for child care facilities. Certification as a Texas Rising Star Provider is available to licensed child care centers, licensed child care homes, and registered child care homes that meet the certification criteria.