

Workshop Information	
Title	Your Road to Success: The TExES Core Subjects EC-6
Description	This session is designed to support teacher candidates and teachers in Texas who are pursuing the Core Subjects EC-6 certification through content exams. It's highly individualized, giving participants exactly what they need through at least a one-hour study session. Participants also have a chance to practice with colleagues who are working toward mastery in the same content. It includes time for working on motivation and investment, as well as test-taking and study strategies.
Audience	Texas teachers and teacher candidates who are seeking certification on the TExES Core Subjects EC-6 content exams.
Objectives	1. Review and analyze data to understand successes and opportunities for growth on the TExES 2. Practice low-performing competencies on the TExES exam to ensure mastery 3. Build confidence with test-taking skills and mastery
Format	In-person
Length	4 hours
Key ideas	1. Mastery machine is designed to be a deep-dive into one content area that a candidate needs. 2. Getting lots of practice on just a few competencies that are "on the bubble" for participants helps build momentum to ensure the candidates can quickly master the competencies they need and pass the exam 3. We are going for mastery and motivation, not perfection - strategically choosing just 2-3 competencies within one content exam and doing a deep dive on that competency gives candidates the boost they need to get what they need on the practice exam.
Evaluation criteria	Post-Workshop Survey Questions (1-5 scale) • How satisfied were you with today's workshop overall? • The workshop was well-organized and ran smoothly.

	• The content covered was relevant to my EC-6 certification needs. • Which content areas were most valuable to you today? • Before today's workshop, how confident did you feel passing the TExES Core Subjects EC-6 exam? • After today's workshop, how confident did you feel passing the TExES Core Subjects EC-6 exam? Your organization may also consider collecting post-workshop test or practice test results to evaluate growth or pass rates on the content exam.
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Design/Facilitation Requirements	
Non-negotiables	• Every participant must take and bring either a practice test or a score report from their most recent test attempt to the workshop. • Workshop location should have strong, reliable internet • Participants will need access to study materials during the workshop, which your organization will need to provide. We recommend test prep sites such as 240Tutoring, Passage Prep, or Study.com. For printed resources, we recommend reviewing what test prep books are available on Amazon aligned to the TExES exam. For free resources, we recommend Khan Academy or researching whether a local university of educator preparation program has free resources available on their site. • Provide all materials in both digital and print formats. • Participants should bring or have headphones and laptops/tablets with them. • Participants should spend the majority of the workshop focused on their individual growth areas. • During Mastery Machine and quiz periods, the room should remain quiet to support focused study.

Branding/design standards	• Organizations may use their organizations' own branding decks and materials for this workshop (i.e., you do not need to maintain Commit branding). • Maintain an asset-based tone throughout all materials
Technology requirements	• Strong, reliable internet • Headphones • Individual devices (laptop or iPad)
Adult learning principles	• Connect learning directly to participants' goals and classroom experiences. • Allow participants to select focus competencies and learning resources based on their needs. • Include structured opportunities for reflection on strengths, growth areas, study habits, and next steps. • Leverage participant expertise through discussion, teaching others, and collaborative problem-solving. • Position participants as owners of their own certification journey, with facilitators acting as coaches rather than lecturers. • Honor participants' classroom experience and existing knowledge as assets.
Accessibility considerations	• Provide all materials in both digital and print formats. • Ensure all materials use high-contrast colors and readable fonts. • Ensure all digital resources and QR codes are mobile-accessible. • Allow flexible movement and encourage participants to take breaks during the session. • Provide quiet workspaces and alternative collaboration spaces. • Accommodate learning supports when possible. • Facilitators should provide individual support during independent work periods.
Other considerations	• Although this workshop is designed as a four-hour session, you are welcome to extend the time or break it up over several days, if needed.

	If you choose to extend the time, we recommend adding rounds of the “Mastery Machine” and/or “Teach Others to Teach Yourself” sections.
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Participant Profile	
Number/range of participants	- Up to 100 - Ideally grouped by content area that they are prioritizing, if unable to bring all candidates together into one space for the full amount of time
Prior knowledge required	- Mindset: willingness to grow and improve - Mindset: desire to become a strong teacher in Texas - Skill: teaching basics through alternative certification work or on-the-ground experience in the classroom
Potential misconceptions	- You need to master everything within a content area before you can test (you need to have enough of the content mastered to hit the 240 score) - Content misconceptions - if a candidate is struggling with the review on a provided study resource, leverage other resources (e.g. Khan Academy) to help learn the content.
Recommended information to obtain from participants during registration period	

Planning for the Workshop (Logistics Timeline)	
1 Month Out	- Confirm workshop dates, location, facilitators, and registration process. - Define participant eligibility requirements (e.g., certification exam score report or practice test results). - Identify and invite eligible participants. - Monitor registrations and follow up with participants who are missing required information or documentation. - Establish participant capacity, waitlist procedures, and communication plan.

1 Week Out	• Review registration counts and participant assessment data and identify common areas of need. • Conduct a site visit (if using an external venue) to confirm room setup, parking, technology, Wi-Fi, and participant flow. • Send a "Know Before You Go" email with logistics, agenda, and preparation instructions. • Confirm catering/refreshments (if applicable). • Print materials and prepare participant folders, name badges, and table supplies.
1 Day Out	• Confirm final participant roster and walk-in process. • Organize participant materials, signage, and supply kits. • Verify access to any workshop-supported study resources or platforms. • Confirm facilitator assignments, technology needs, and backup plans.
Day of Workshop	• Arrive early for room setup and technology check. • Manage participant check-in and seating. • Distribute materials and facilitate workshop activities. • Monitor participant engagement and troubleshoot issues as needed. • Administer participant feedback survey. • Conduct a brief team debrief to capture observations and immediate improvements.
1 Day After	• Review attendance, participant feedback, and facilitator observations. • Identify successes, challenges, and adjustments for future workshops. • Document any issues related to logistics, materials, or resource access.
1 Week After	• Send follow-up email with workshop resources, study materials, and support information. • Review survey results and facilitator notes to identify participant outcomes and improvement opportunities. • Update materials, facilitation strategies, and logistics plans for future workshops.

1 Month After	- Send a follow-up survey (with reminder emails as needed) to collect participants' exam registration and testing status. - Review results to assess workshop impact and identify opportunities for future support.
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Materials List		
Documents & Resources Needed	Quantity	How should participants access?
Self-paced study platform (ex: 240Tutoring) or test prep book	1 per participant	Online
Reliable strong internet	n/a	n/a
Post-it chart paper (for celebrations, announcements, etc.)	1 pack	Place on walls throughout workshop space
Supply boxes (pens, post-its, highlighters, etc)	1 per table	Tables
Mastery quizzes	1 per participant	Handout; also available online
Mastery quizzes with answer key	1 per subject per table	Handout; also available online
Blank index cards	1 pack per table	In supply boxes or on tables

Workshop Pre-Work	
What should the facilitator(s) do before the workshop?	- Read through slides - Review study platform or test prep book (recommended to choose a content and walk through the lessons so the facilitator has an understanding of how it's structured) - Send reminders for participants to check emails for study access before date of workshop
What should participants do before the workshop?	- Access test prep materials - Take TExES diagnostic or exam - Have data available from diagnostic or score report

Facilitator Notes	
Ideal room setup	- Groups of 4-6 participants at each table - Facilitator ability to move around the space freely

Grouping recommendations	• By district or by campus, if relevant • By content need
Timing considerations	• Ensure that participants know they may take breaks at any point, with recommended breaks during independent work time • There are long stretches of independent work time so make sure candidates are reminded periodically of needing to work as silently as possible
Engagement considerations	• Get participants up and moving at various points throughout the session • Emphasize the importance of taking breaks as needed (no structured break included) • If groups need to break out into a hallway or smaller groups to study, that is fine and encouraged but they should do so outside the main room • Main facilitation room should be <i>silent</i> during the session when it's time to independently study

Agenda				
Time	Activity	Purpose	Materials	Mode
30	Welcome and Connections	Connect participants with one another	• Slides • Post its or index cards	Whole Group
15	Diagnostic Data Analysis	Allow participants to decide what they will be focusing on for the day	• Diagnostic data from participants • Test prep resources • Slides	Independent
10	Study Strategies - You can do hard things!	Build confidence in participants	• Slides	Independent
70	Mastery Machine	Practice key skills	• Slides • Test prep resources	Independent
45	Teach Yourself to Teach Others	Build community and practice skills	• Slides • Test prep resources	Small group

			• Index cards	
15	Test Taking Strategies - You will succeed!	Practice key skills	• Slides	Independent
30	Mastery Quiz	Identify growth	• Slides • Mastery quizzes	Independent
15	Celebrations! You are amazing!	Celebrate wins	• Slides • Chart paper	Whole group
10	Survey and Next Steps	Receive feedback	• Slides	Independent

Script		
Activity & Time	Slide # & Title	Script
Welcome & Connections - You got this! 30 min	Slide 1 - Intro	“Welcome! Today is about building confidence, strengthening content knowledge, and preparing for certification success. Every activity today is designed to move you one step closer toward becoming a certified teacher.”
	Slide 2: Housekeeping	“Let’s start with a few housekeeping items before we jump into today’s workshop. We want everyone to feel comfortable, prepared, and ready to focus.” “Please make note of important logistics and don’t hesitate to ask questions throughout the day.”
	Slide 3: Housekeeping & Internet	“Before we begin, let’s make sure everyone can access their test prep resources.” “Please check your email for an invitation and activate your account. If you don’t see the email, make sure to check your spam or junk folder. This platform will be one of your main tools for preparing for the TExES exam.” → <i>if relevant</i>

		“Here are directions to the restrooms and important facility information. Take care of your needs throughout the session so you can stay focused and engaged.”
	Slide 4 - Material Access	“You have a printed copy of the deck in your folder for note-taking and reference. You can also access the digital version and additional resources using the link on the slide. These materials are here to support your preparation both today and after the workshop.”
	Slide 5 – Celebrations	“Today is also about celebrating your dedication and persistence. The fact that you showed up today demonstrates commitment to your growth and your future students.” “We are excited to support you throughout this certification journey.”
	Slide 6 – Objectives	“Our first goal today is to analyze data and identify strengths and opportunities for growth.” “Second, we’ll practice low-performing competencies to build mastery.” “Finally, we’ll strengthen test-taking confidence and strategies.” “By the end of today, you should feel more prepared and empowered.”
	Slide 7 – Meeting Agenda	“Here’s an overview of our agenda for today. We’ll move through connection activities, study strategies, mastery practice, test-taking skills, and celebration.” “The day is intentionally structured to balance learning, practice, reflection, and encouragement.” “There are no formal breaks; break as you need to.”
	Slide 8 – Shared Norms	“Before we begin, let’s establish some shared norms for today.” “We want this to be a safe and productive learning space.”

		“Confidentiality, vulnerability, active participation, and respect are essential.” “Most importantly, we’ll keep students at the center of everything we do.” “Take a moment to write down one norm you want to prioritize today.”
	Slide 9 – Connections	“We’re going to start by building connections with one another.” “Strong learning communities help people feel more comfortable taking risks and asking questions.” “These activities are designed to help us build trust and energy.”
	Slide 10 – Community Building: Quiz-Quiz-Trade	“On a note card, write a favorite team-building question or use one from the slide.” “Then stand up, pair up, and take turns asking and answering questions.” “After each conversation, trade cards and move to a new partner.” “This activity helps us connect while building positive energy in the room.”
Diagnostic Data Analysis 15 min	Slide 11 – Analyzing Diagnostic Data	“Now we’re transitioning into diagnostic data analysis.” “The goal is not judgment — it’s identifying where your greatest opportunities for growth are.” “Data gives us direction for focused practice.”
	Slide 12 – TExES Exam Reminders	“Let’s review the structure and timing of the Core Subjects EC-6 exam.” “Understanding the timing for each section helps you pace yourself strategically.” “Notice the differences in question counts and time allocations across subjects.” “Strong pacing and awareness are important parts of test success.”

	Slide 13-Slide 17 – Exam Overview Slides	Facilitator Note: This is meant to be an overview into the content exam competencies; move quickly through these slides and let participants know it’s available for them in their slides if they want to look more closely at them. “Don’t feel like you need to have this whole thing internalized; it’s meant to be an overview.” “You might already have an idea of which content you want to deep dive into today. Pay attention to that one”
	Slide 18 – Track Your Progress	“Take the next several minutes to document your progress so far.” “Identify the competencies where you want to focus your energy today.” “Being strategic with your time will help maximize growth.”
	Slide 19 – Celebrate Successes	“Before focusing on growth areas, let’s celebrate strengths.” “Reflect on which competencies you feel most confident in.” “Recognizing success builds motivation and confidence.”
	Slide 20 – Identify Opportunities	“Now identify the competencies where you feel least confident.” “Think about what may have caused misunderstandings or confusion.” “Awareness is the first step toward improvement.”
Study Strategies - You can do hard things! 10 min	Slide 21 – Study Strategies	“We’re now shifting into study strategies and mindset.” “Remember: you absolutely can do hard things.” “Success comes from consistent effort, intentional practice, and belief in your ability to grow.”

	Slide 22 – You Have What It Takes	“You already bring important knowledge and experience into this room.” “You also have the desire to make a difference as a teacher.” “Growth mindset is critical — improvement happens through persistence and practice.” “Take a moment to reflect on past growth experiences and what they taught you.”
	Slide 23 – Test-Taking Strategies	“These are practical ways to strengthen your study habits and confidence.” “Use strategies like Cornell Notes, flashcards, Frayer Models, and prioritized study plans.” “Building momentum by mastering smaller goals first can help increase confidence.”
	Slide 24 – Study Flow	“This slide outlines an effective study process.” “Start by understanding the competency deeply, including key vocabulary and concepts.” “Study for understanding rather than memorization alone.” “Then test yourself, reflect on mistakes, and repeat the process as needed.”
	Slide 25 – Study Flow Tools	“These tools can support your studying and organization.” “Frayer Models help build vocabulary understanding.” “Cornell Notes support organization and summarization.” “Growth mindset helps sustain persistence through challenges.”
Mastery Machine 70 min	Slide 26 – Mastery Machine	“We’re now transitioning into Mastery Machine practice.” “This is where targeted practice and repetition help build mastery.”
	Slide 27 – What is Mastery Machine?	“Mastery Machine is designed to give you focused practice on standards where you need support.”

		“Today, your goal is to achieve at least 75% mastery on multiple assignments.” “You’ll use answer keys, collaborate with experts, and continue refining your understanding.” “Remember: growth happens through repetition and reflection.”
	Slide 28 – Instructions	“First, select the test you want to practice. Stay focused on one test until you’ve mastered all low-performing competencies. Consistency builds stronger understanding.” “Next, locate the competency you want to practice. Remember that competencies may appear multiple times throughout the platform. Explore all related lessons and opportunities.” “After that, you should review the instructional content carefully before beginning practice. Pay close attention to explanations, examples, and strategies. Use or create flashcards as study aids. Repeated practice strengthens understanding and memory. Take your time and revisit concepts as needed.” “After reviewing the content for a competency, it’s time to quiz yourself. Use the quiz as a learning tool, not just an assessment. Mistakes help identify where more learning is needed.” Finally, once you’ve completed a competency, move to the next area you want to strengthen. Continue building mastery step by step.”
	Slide 29 – Let’s Practice	“Now we’ll practice navigating your test prep materials together.” “Log in/open your resource, select your exam, and identify a competency to focus on.” “Notice how competencies may include multiple lessons and resources.”

Teach Yourself to Teach Others 45 min	Slide 30 – Teach Yourself to Teach Others	“One of the best ways to learn is by teaching someone else.” “We’re now transitioning into an activity where you’ll deepen understanding by explaining concepts.”
	Slide 31 – Time to Learn, Time to Quiz	“Choose a competency you feel strong in or one you improved on today.” “Do a deep dive using flashcards, videos, notes, or additional resources.” “Create a big-picture question and write it on one side of a blank index card. Write the answer on the back. You will use this to quiz a partner. Once you’ve quizzed your partner, trade index cards and find a new partner to quiz-quiz trade.”
Test-Taking Strategies - You will succeed! 15 min	Slide 32 – Test-Taking Strategies	“We’re now focusing on test-taking strategies to help you succeed.” “Strong strategies can improve confidence, pacing, and accuracy on exam day.”
	Slide 33 – Test-Taking Strategies	“Remember that the test is a game — and strategy matters.” “Use process of elimination and mark difficult questions for review.” “On pedagogy questions, focus on developmentally appropriate teaching practices.” “Understanding question types can also help reduce stress and confusion.”
	Slide 34 – Mindsets for Success	“These are practical strategies for reading, multiple-choice questions, and overall test mindset.” “Slowing down, breathing, and staying calm are just as important as content knowledge.” “Think about which strategies already work for you and which you may want to add.”
Mastery Quiz 30 min	Slide 35 – Mastery Quiz	“We’re now transitioning into the mastery quiz portion of the workshop.”

		“This is an opportunity to measure growth and apply what you’ve practiced.”
	Slide 36 – Mastery Test Instructions	“You’ll have 30 minutes to complete the mastery test.” “Do your best and use the strategies we’ve discussed today.” “Remember that growth matters more than perfection.”
	Slide 37 – Answer Keys	“Use the QR code or link to access the answer keys.” “Reviewing answers thoughtfully helps deepen understanding.” “Focus on learning from mistakes and identifying patterns.” “Celebrate your progress and sign the Victory Wall in the corresponding color.” “Tracking growth helps build motivation and accountability.”
	Slide 38 – Instructions	“Now update your tracker with your results.” “Celebrate your progress and sign the Victory Wall in the corresponding color.” “Tracking growth helps build motivation and accountability.”
Celebrations! You are amazing! 15 min	Slide 39 – Celebrations!	“This is a moment to celebrate your effort and growth.” “Every step forward matters, and your persistence deserves recognition.” Note: Instruct participants who achieved 80% mastery or above to stand and remain standing; then those who achieved between 60-79%, then those between 50-59%.
	Slide 40 – Planning for Success	“Think about how you’ll continue the work after today.” “What systems or strategies will help you stay consistent?” “How will you monitor growth and celebrate success?”

		“Long-term preparation requires planning and reflection.”
	Slide 41 – Action Plan	“Take a few minutes to build a concrete action plan.” “Decide what you’ll study, when you’ll practice, and how you’ll reassess progress.” “Putting your goals on a calendar increases accountability.”
	Slide 42 – Are You Registered?	“One important step toward success is making sure you’re registered for the exam.” “Stay proactive and aware of deadlines and requirements.”
	Slide 43 – Registration Instructions	“Please review the registration and fingerprinting instructions carefully.” “Completing these requirements early can help reduce stress later.” “Stay organized and ask questions if you need support.”
	Slide 44 – Testing Accommodations	“If you need testing accommodations, make sure you are registered before applying.” “Approval can take several weeks, so planning ahead is important.” “Take advantage of the support systems available to you.”
Survey & Next Steps 10 min	Slide 45 – Feedback Survey	“Your feedback helps improve future workshops and support systems.” “Please take a moment to complete the survey before leaving today.”
	Slide 46 – Before You Leave	“Before leaving, please gather all belongings and help clean the space.” “Returning the room to its original setup helps support future events.” “Thank you for helping take care of our shared environment.”

	Slide 47 – Thank You!	“Thank you for your participation, effort, and engagement today.” “Your commitment to growth reflects the kind of educator you are becoming.”
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Workshop Post-Work	
What should the facilitator(s) do after the workshop?	
What should participants do after the workshop?	