

REQUIREMENTS FOR COUNTY LIBRARIANS' CERTIFICATION
Texas State Library and Archives Commission (13 Texas Administrative Code §5.1-5.6)

Chapter 5. County Librarian Certification

Authority: The provisions of this Chapter issued under Acts 1909, 31st Leg., p. 122, effective June 12, 1909, as amended (Texas Civil Statutes Article 5435); and Acts 1919, 36th Leg., 2nd C.S., p. 219, ch. 75, effective October 21, 1919, as amended (Texas Civil Statutes arts. 1683 and 1694).

Section 5.1 Grade I Certificate (Permanent)

Employment in any county library or city/county library requires either a fifth-year degree in librarianship from a program accredited by the American Library Association or a master's degree in library or information science from a program accredited by the American Library Association or a higher credential from a library school offering an American Library Association-approved degree in library or information science.

Source: [Effective February 15, 1982, 7 TexReg 436; amended April 29, 1985, 10 TexReg 1229]

Section 5.2 Grade II Certificate

Employment in any county library or city/county library having a service area with a population of 25,000 or fewer persons requires graduation from an accredited senior college or university; or completion of 60 semester credit hours at an accredited college or university and 2,000 hours paid or voluntary work experience in a library within the past five years; or an equivalent combination of education and experience where 30 additional semester credit hours substitute for 1,000 hours experience.

Source: [Effective January 6, 1982, 6 TexReg 4811; amended April 29, 1985, 10 TexReg 1229]

Section 5.3 Grade III Certificate

Employment in any county library or city/county library having a service area with a population of 10,000 or fewer persons requires completion of 30 semester credit hours at an accredited college or university; or graduation from high school, or passing the General Education Development test (GED), and 1,000 hours of paid or voluntary work experience in a library in the past five years; or an equivalent combination of semester credit hours and experience.

Source: [Effective January 6, 1982, 6 TexReg 4811; amended April 29, 1985, 10 TexReg 1229]

Section 5.4 Term

Grades II and III certificates are valid for two calendar years and renewable upon either completion of three additional semester credit hours at an accredited college or university or participation in 20 hours of continuing education during the two calendar years immediately preceding an application for certification. Continuing education activities for which the applicant can supply documentation of participation, duration, and relevance to the operation of a library may include workshops, library association meetings, and correspondence courses. Library system meetings, board meetings, public hearings, and other business meetings are not considered continuing education activities. Colleges or universities must be accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or a comparable regional accrediting commission, where an accrediting authority is not identified in this chapter.

Source: [Effective January 6, 1982, 6 TexReg 4811]

Section 5.5 Special Provisions

(a) When population in a library's service area increases and requires the librarian to be certified at a higher level, a librarian who has previously been employed and certified for that library shall be eligible for continued certification at the new grade level required for the library. This certificate would be valid only for the library where the person is employed. Continued certification for applicants upgraded to Grade II certificates under this provision would be dependent only upon their attainment of the continuing education requirement or upon completion of three additional semester credit hours.

(b) The person serving as a library director and holding a certificate from the former State Board of Library Examiners which is valid during 1981 shall be granted continued certification at the grade level required for the library where the person was employed as of December 31, 1981. This certificate would be valid only for the library where the person was employed on December 31, 1981. Continued certification for applicants holding Grade II or Grade III certificates under this provision would be dependent upon their attainment of the continuing education requirement or upon completion of three additional semester credit hours.

Source: [Effective January 6, 1982, 6 TexReg 4811]

Section 5.6 Penalties

Persons willfully submitting false information on an application for county librarians' certification will not be eligible for certification for three years.

Source: [Effective April 29, 1985, 10 TexReg 1229]

REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS A COUNTY LIBRARIAN

LEVEL OF CERTIFICATION	TERM	POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARY	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS	RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS
GRADE I	Permanent	Any County Library	<p>Fifth year degree in librarianship from a school accredited by the American Library Association</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Masters degree or higher credential in library science from a school accredited by the American Library Association.</p>	NA
GRADE II	Two-years	10,001 - 25,000	<p>Graduation from accredited senior college or university</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Completion of 60 semester credit hours at an accredited college or university and 2,000 hours of paid or voluntary work experience in a library within the past 5 years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>An equivalent combination of semester credit hours from an accredited college or university and experience, where one semester credit hour may substitute for 33 1/3 hours of experience. However, there can be no fewer than 60 semester credit hours of college.</p>	<p>Three additional semester credit hours at an accredited college or university</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Participation in 20 hours of continuing education during the two years immediately preceding an application for renewal.</p>
GRADE III	Two-years	10,000 or less	<p>Completion of 30 semester credit hours from an accredited college or university</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Graduation from high school or passing GED and 1,000 hours of paid or voluntary work experience in a library in the past five years</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>An equivalent combination of semester credit hours from an accredited college or university and experience where one semester credit hour may substitute for 33 1/3 hours of experience.</p>	<p>Three additional semester credit hours at an accredited college or university</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Participation in 20 hours of continuing education during the two years immediately preceding an application for renewal.</p>