

The PRAXIS Series, Moving Rule to Policy

The Background:

Over the past several years, numerous changes have been made to the required scores educators must meet on the PRAXIS examinations. Sometimes these changes are a result of changes by the vendor, Educational Testing Service (for example, changing the scale of the scores). Sometimes tests are introduced without a minimum score for a few years. Then, once standards task forces meet and minimum scores are set, the rules must be revised. Similarly, rule changes are required when new endorsements become available.

In order to streamline the revision of required minimum scores, the listing of required scores is being moved from the rule to policy.

The rule revision still meets the statutory requirement for teachers to pass proficiency tests.

The Master Plan Connection:

This item supports effective teachers by making scores for current endorsements and for newly available endorsements effective in a more timely manner.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends adoption of the revision on final reading. SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.

Proposed Rule Amendment

Rule 0520-02-04-.05 The Praxis Series: Professional Assessments For Tennessee Educators is amended by deleting the present language in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

- (1) Individuals applying for initial teacher licensure in Tennessee shall submit passing scores on a test that measures professional knowledge and is correlated to Tennessee's Professional Education Standards. This requirement does not apply to school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, or speech/language teachers.
- (2) Applicants for licensure in Tennessee shall submit passing scores on the content specialty area test(s) for all endorsements to be listed on the licenses.
- (3) Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing who seek licensure and endorsement in Special Education: Hearing PreK-12 shall take the licensure exam covering Tennessee's Professional Education Standards and shall take the designated licensure content specialty exam(s). However, there shall be no minimum scores required on these examinations for candidates who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- (4) An applicant from another state may be exempt from Tennessee's testing requirements if the applicant meets one of the following conditions:
 - (a) The applicant holds a valid license from a reciprocal state and provides verification of appropriate experience, or
 - (b) The applicant completes a teacher preparation program in a reciprocal state and holds a full license from that state, or
 - (c) The applicant has been certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

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State law and Board rules require individuals applying for initial teacher licensure in Tennessee to submit passing scores on a test that measures professional knowledge and is correlated to Tennessee’s Professional Education Standards. This requirement does not apply to school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, or speech/language teachers.

Applicants for licensure in Tennessee shall also submit passing scores on the content specialty area test(s) for all endorsements to be listed on the licenses.

The examinations and corresponding required scores on the Praxis Series are as follows:

Tennessee Educator Licensure Examinations

Test Code	Endorsement Area	Test Title	Minimum Qualifying Score	Effective Date Sept. 1
0521	All Areas (See Note)	Principles of Learning and Teaching, Early Childhood	155	2005
0522		Principles of Learning and Teaching, K-6 or	155	1998
0523		Principles of Learning and Teaching, 5-9 or	154	1999
0524		Principles of Learning and Teaching, 7-12	159	1998
1011	Administrator	School Leader Licensure Assessment	160	2009
0700	Agricultural Education	Agriculture	530	1998
0133	Art	Art: Content Knowledge	150	1998
0132	Art	Choice of Art: Content, Traditions, Criticism & Aesthetics or	140	2001
0131	Art	Art: Art Making	155	2001
0235	Biology	Biology: Content Knowledge	148	2002
0233	Biology	Choice of Biology Content Essays or	146	1999
0433	Biology	General Science Content Essays	130	1999
0100	Business/Accounting	Business Education	570	1996
0245	Chemistry	Chemistry: Content Knowledge	152	2002
0431	Chemistry	General Science: Content Knowledge, Part 1	145	2005
0021	Early Childhood Education	Early Childhood Endorsement: Education Of Young Children	155	2005
0014	PreK-3	Elementary Education: Content Knowledge	140	2003
0201		Reading Across the Curriculum: Elementary	151	2006
0021	Early Childhood Dual Endorsement – PreK-K	Education of Young Children	155	2009
0014		Elementary Education: Content Knowledge	140	2009
0690		Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood	560	2009
0571	Earth Science	Earth Science: Content Knowledge	146	2002
0431	Earth Science	General Science: Content Knowledge, Part 1	145	2005
0910	Economics	Economics	530	2005
0011	Elementary Education	Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment	159	1998
0014	K-6	Elementary Education: Content Knowledge or	140	2003
0146		Middle School: Content Knowledge	150	2001
0201		Reading Across the Curriculum: Elementary	151	2006
0041	English	Language, Literature, Composition: Content Knowledge	157	1995
0043	English	Language, Literature, Comp.: Pedagogy	145	1999
0360	English as a Second Language	Teaching English as a Second Language	530	1999
0121	Family & Consumer Science	Family and Consumer Science	157	2008

Adopted:
Revised:

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0920	Geography	Geography	580	2005
0357	Gifted Education	Gifted Education	146	2009
0930	Government	Government/Political Science	600	2005
0550	Health & Wellness	Health Education	570	1997
0941	History	World and U.S. History	136	2005
Languages:				
0173	French	French: Content Knowledge	160	2005
0171	French	French: Productive Language Skills	165	2005
0181	German	German: Content Knowledge	149	2005
0600	Latin	Latin	540	1996
0191	Spanish	Spanish: Content Knowledge	152	2005
0192	Spanish	Spanish: Productive Language Skills	154	2005
0311	Librarian	Library Media Specialist	146	2009
0561	Marketing	Marketing Education	160	2008
0061	Mathematics	Mathematics: Content Knowledge	136	1995
0065	Mathematics	Mathematics: Pedagogy	125	1999
0146	Middle Grades 4-8	Middle School: Content Knowledge	150	2008
0201	Middle Grades 4-8	Reading Across the Curriculum: Elementary	151	2008
0113	Music	Music: Content Knowledge	150	1998
0111	Music	Music: Concepts and Processes	145	2001
0091	Physical Education	Physical Education: Content Knowledge	152	1995
0092	Physical Education	Physical Education: Movement Forms – Analysis & Design	148	1999
0265	Physics	Physics: Content Knowledge	144	2002
0262	Physics	Choice of Physics: Content Essays or	135	1999
0433	Physics	General Science Content Essays	130	1999
0390	Psychology	Psychology	560	1997
0300	Reading Specialist	Reading Specialist	510	2005
0420	School Counselor	School Guidance and Counseling	580	1996
0401	School Psychologist	School Psychologist	154	2008
0950	Sociology	Sociology	540	1996
Special Education:				
0353	All Special Education Areas (See Note)	Education of Exceptional Children: Core Content Knowledge	144	2005
0201	All Special Education Areas (See Note)	Reading Across the Curriculum: Elementary	151	2006
0542	Modified	Education of Exceptional Students: Mild to Moderate Disabilities	164	2005
0544	Comprehensive	Education of Exceptional Students: Severe to Profound	155	2005
0690	Preschool/Early Childhood PreK-3	Education of Exceptional Students: Preschool/Early Childhood	560	2004
0271	Hearing	Special Education: Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students	163	2001
0330	Speech/Language	Speech-Language Pathology	600	2000
0280	Vision	Special Education: Teaching Students with Visual Impairments	700	2001
0221	Speech	Speech Communications	144	2009
0050	Technology Education	Technology Education	580	1996
0640	Theatre	Theatre	610	1997

Note: Candidates seeking licensure in early childhood education, PreK-3, or early childhood special education PreK-1 will take Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) early childhood or PLT K-6. Candidates seeking licensure in elementary education, K-6, may choose either PLT K-6 or PLT 5-9. Candidates seeking licensure in middle grades 5-8 will take PLT 5-9. Candidates seeking licensure in secondary education areas will take PLT 7-12. Candidates seeking licensure in K-12, or preK-12 areas may choose PLT K-6, PLT 5-9, or PLT 7-12.

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Note: Two tests, (1) 0353 - Education of Exceptional Students: Core Content Knowledge, and (2) 0201 - Reading Across Curriculum: Elementary, apply to the following special education areas: modified program, comprehensive program, hearing, vision and preschool/early childhood.

Note: Candidates in biology and physics may choose either the general science content essay or the subject area (biology or physics) content essays. Candidates seeking an additional endorsement in biology, chemistry, earth science, or physics will be required to take only the content knowledge exam for endorsement in the additional science area.

Authority: T.C.A. §§49-1-302 and 49-5-5605.