
Professional Assessments Policy 5.105

The Background:

To become licensed to teach in Tennessee, educators must demonstrate both content and pedagogical competencies. The Professional Assessment Policy outlines the assessment requirements through which educators demonstrate content and pedagogical competency. This first reading item proposes several updates and clarifications to the Professional Assessments Policy.

Below is a brief summary of proposed changes to the policy (page numbers reflect the tracked changes document):

- Page 1: Revises the edTPA qualifying scores to incrementally increase the existing cut score of 37 to 42 over the next three (3) years.
- Page 3: Replaces the School Leader Licensure Assessment (6011) with the regenerated School Leader Licensure Assessment (6990). The new assessment will be accepted beginning on October 19, 2018. The former assessment will be accepted until August 31, 2019.
- Page 3: Replaces Computer Science (5651) with the regenerated Computer Science (5652). The new assessment will be accepted beginning on October 19, 2018. The former assessment will be accepted until August 31, 2019.
- Page 3: Footnote 1 clarifies the assessments required for 9-12 endorsements issued based on T.C.A. § 49-5-112.
- Page 4: Replaces the Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (5018) assessment with the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001) assessment. The new assessment will be accepted beginning on October 19, 2018. The former assessment will be accepted until August 31, 2019.
- Page 5: Replaces the Middle School Mathematics (5146 – Praxis Series) with the Middle Grades and Early Secondary Mathematics assessment administered by National Evaluation Services. The new assessment will be accepted beginning on October 19, 2018. The former assessment will be accepted until August 31, 2019.
- Page 5: Adds the Mathematics assessment administered by National Evaluation Services for the Secondary Mathematics endorsement. The new assessment will be accepted beginning on October 19, 2018. The former assessment will still also be acceptable for licensure requirements. Candidates may choose which of the two assessments they prefer to take.
- Page 5: Adds four assessments for World Languages (Arabic, Greek, Japanese, and Russian). The new assessment will be acceptable on October 19, 2018, and required on August 31, 2019.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.