
Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105

The Background:

Tennessee State Board of Education Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105 outlines general assessment requirements, as well as pedagogical, specialty area content, and foundational literacy skills assessments.

This item proposes the following revision to Section I: General Assessment Requirements:

- Clarifies that assessment timelines and expectations for licensure reactivation are detailed in Department of Education guidance.

This item proposes the following revisions to Section III: Specialty Area Content Assessments:

- Clarifies that an educator who holds a major aligned to a qualifying endorsement can both renew and advance a license without the associated specialty area content assessment.
- Identifies the following Specialty Area Content Assessments as needed upon licensure renewal for job-embedded candidates:
 - Teaching Reading: Elementary 5205
 - Education of Young Children 5024
- Amends the Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood (5691) assessment code for the Integrated Early Childhood pre-K-3 endorsement. This assessment is being retired by ETS and the new assessment Special Education: Early Childhood/Early Intervention (5692) will be accepted in its place. Revisions to replace this assessment code was approved by the State Board in June 2023 for other applicable endorsement areas, but the change was inadvertently left off of the Integrated Early Childhood pre-K-3 endorsement.
- Removes the Teaching Reading: Elementary Education (5203) as it is no longer accepted as of August 31, 2023.
- Removes the requirement for Teaching Reading: Elementary 5205 for Middle Grades 6-8 endorsements, as the grades covered by the endorsements do not align to the assessment.

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.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Teachers and Leaders outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring alignment for license issuance, renewal, advancement, and reactivation across Educator and Instructional Leader License types.

The Recommendation:

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