

Praxis –Test Changes

Subject	Current Version	New Version	New Cut Score	State Review Date	Arkansas Launch Date
Early Childhood (for P-4 licensure)*	5022	5025	NA	NA	9/1/2016
Elem Ed (K-6) – Math Subtest	5033	5003	157	9/18/2014	9/1/2015
Elem Ed (K-6) – Reading Language Arts Subtest	5032	5002	157	9/18/2014	9/1/2015
Elem Ed (K-6) – Science Subtest	5035	5005	159	NA	9/1/2015
Elem Ed (K-6) – Social Studies Subtest	5034	5004	155	NA	9/1/2015
Family Consumer Sciences	5121	5122	153	9/18/2014	9/1/2015
Chemistry	NA	5245	150	4/18/2014	9/1/2015
Physics	NA	5265	135	9/11/2014	9/1/2015
American Sign Language	NA	0632	2.5	9/17/2014	when approved

*Only for candidates enrolled in P-4 prior to Spring 2015.

The Praxis website is the most up to date source for IHEs and candidates to ensure the correct tests are being used.

<http://www.ets.org/praxis/ar/requirements>

Rules Governing Educator Licensure

- Approved by state board and effective as of February 12, 2015.
- Public hearing to be held March 3, 2015, at the ADE.
- Public comment deadline is March 17, 2015.

The rules are available at <http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/legal/rules/pending>.

The Policies Governing Programs for Educator Licensure will be revised at a later date. As stated in these policies: Field experience and internship placements for candidates in traditional and nontraditional programs of study for educator licensure “shall not include priority schools, public schools or school districts in academic distress, or school districts under administrative takeover.” This includes all candidate placements for future field experiences. Candidates already in place when a school is added to a list are not affected. Under extreme circumstances an approval can be granted by the Department of Licensure. Complete the placement form at http://www.arkansased.org/public/userfiles/HR_and_Educator_Effectiveness/Educator_Prep/ADE_Internship_Placement_Form_10_22_2014_revised_Form.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Pro.pdf

Dyslexia Endorsement

Dyslexia (K-12) has been added as an exception area endorsement. The license will require a completed program of study, and until a content specific Dyslexia assessment is available, a current Principles of

Learning and Teaching (PLT) is required. It is anticipated that a content specific Dyslexia assessment will be created within a few years. Nine Letters of Intent (LOIs) to create programs have been received. Five were tentative for fall implementation. Three proposal packets were received by the deadline and are ready for review. All other submissions will be worked in the order received.

Science Licensure Changes

Starting in fall 2015, candidates applying for Physical Science Licensure grades 7-12 will take the Physics (5265) or Chemistry (5245) exam. Programs for Physical Science License will be discontinued in August 2016. Candidates enrolled prior to that date will be allowed to complete the program for Physical Science licensure. Now is the time for IHEs to convert Physical Science licensure programs to a Physics or Chemistry program. Physics and Chemistry will also be available as an endorsement to a current license by testing out starting in fall 2015.

American Sign Language (ASL), grades K-12

ASL is now available as another foreign language licensure area. The candidates are required to pass the American Sign Language (0632) and the World Language Pedagogy (5841) exams. There are currently no approved programs of study for initial licensure. The area can be added to a standard license by testing out as soon as the test is approved. The recommendation will go to the PLSB and the State Board in March.

Computer Science, grades 4-12

HB 1183 requires each public high school and public charter school to offer a course in computer science. In preparation for it becoming law we have created computer science competencies and computer science has been added as a licensure content area. ETS will be working with the ADE for the next few months to get the Praxis Computer Science (5651) exam through the state review and approval process. Until programs of study are developed and approved, it will be available as an endorsement to a current license by testing out.

Educator Preparation Program Approval

The Educator Preparation Section is continuing to accept proposals from IHEs for new programs or revised programs of study in compliance with the November 2013 changes in licensure. Beginning in fall 2015, all programs must comply with these November 2013 changes. Programs will no longer be able to accept candidates into the affected programs after spring 2015. Affected programs will be removed from the approved programs matrix in August 2015.

Proposals from public IHES must be submitted to Lillian.Williams@adhe.edu for all new and revised programs.

Proposals for independent IHEs can be sent directly to the ADE.

Content Competencies and Matrices

Content Competencies for all licensure and endorsement areas are available for your use as you prepare new programs and revise existing ones. These competencies are available at

<http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/human-resources-educator-effectiveness-and-licensure/educator-licensure-unit/educator-preparation/educator-competencies>

Also available are sample matrix templates for course alignment with content competencies. These matrices may be used when submitting revisions or new program proposals. The matrices for all licensure and endorsement areas are available at <http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/human-resources-educator-effectiveness-and-licensure/educator-licensure-unit/educator-preparation/matrix-templates-for-course-alignment>

Teacher Performance Assessments

The ADE-sponsored pilot for edTPA is continuing with Williams Baptist College, Henderson State University, and the Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure (APPEL). UA Fort Smith is in its second year of an independent pilot and has joined in the discussions. We would like to thank these programs for their participation. A spring training for participants is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 20.

University of Arkansas at Monticello is currently working with ETS on a 2015 pilot of the Praxis Performance Assessment for Teachers (PPAT). We look forward to their thoughts on their experience with the PPAT.

We would like to thank all of these programs for their participation in these pilots.

Equitable Access

The US Department of Education (USED) has required all State Education Agencies (SEAs) to develop a plan “to ensure poor and minority children are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, unqualified, or out-of-field teachers”. The plan must include documentation of stakeholder engagement, identification of equity gaps, and strategies to eliminate equity gaps. The ADE has developed an internal working group that has been gathering available data and analyzing it. Stakeholder meetings are planned for March to engage stakeholders and develop strategies to eliminate equity gaps and implement monitoring measures to evaluate progress.

Educator Preparation Program Audits

The Professional Licensure Standards Board has created a task force in response to its legal obligation to review the educator preparation program audits. Additionally, USED proposed new regulations in November concerning Educator Preparation Program audits that place significant obligations on SEAs. The regulations are currently pending until review of public comments. The purpose of the task force is to make recommendations for various components of the audit system. The focus this semester is on surveys (i.e., internship, novice teacher, employer, beginning administrator, etc.) while we wait on the Federal Regulations to be finalized.

The Educator Preparation Program Reports (EPPRs) will continue to be created and posted. It is anticipated that the EPPRs will evolve into the required federal 2018 State Report Card as proposed by the pending rules.

Upcoming Meetings*

****Meeting invitations will be forthcoming.***

~~Wednesday February 25th PLSB Task Force at Harding—NLR cancelled~~

Thursday March 5 PLSB Task Force – location TBD

Tuesday March 10th Praxis Core Test review at Holiday Inn Airport - LR

Wednesday March 11th am Praxis Middle School Math at Holiday Inn Airport - LR

Wednesday March 11th pm Praxis Middle School Science Test review at Holiday Inn Airport - LR

Thursday March 12th am Praxis Middle School English Science Test at Holiday Inn Airport - LR

Thursday March 12th pm Praxis Middle School Social Studies at Holiday Inn Airport - LR

Thursday April 2nd SpEd focus group at the ADE - LR

Monday April 20th edTPA Local Evaluator Training at Holiday Inn Airport - LR