

Attention: New Certification Requirements:

NEW ASSESSMENTS FOR NEW PENNSYLVANIA CERTIFICATIONS:

Teacher certification exams are changing. Education majors/teacher candidates that graduate after January 1, 2013 must take the new assessments for their appropriate program areas. The new exams should be available by April 2, 2012. These tests are designed in a modular format with several modules comprising one full assessment. This will permit a candidate to retake a module without being required to retake the entire assessment. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

The new *Pennsylvania Educator Certification Tests (PECT)*, administered by Pearson Evaluation Systems, (ES) will be used for the following assessments:

Grades PreK-4

1. Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (**PAPA**)
Individual modules that make up the assessment:
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Mathematics
2. Individual modules that make up the PreK-4 assessment
 - Grades PreK-4 Core
 - Grades PreK-4 Professional Knowledge
 - Grades PreK-4 Professional Knowledge

Special Education PreK-8

1. PAPA
2. Individual modules that make up the Special Education assessment

Special Education 7-12

1. PAPA
2. Individual modules that make up the Special Education assessment

The Praxis Tests administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) will be used for the following assessments:

Pennsylvania Middle Grades 4-8

1. **All program areas include PAPA**
2. Individual modules that make up the assessment
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Core Assessment
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Core Assessment: Pedagogy
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Core Assessment: English and Social Studies
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Core Assessment: Mathematics and Science
3. Individual modules for each concentration area
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Subject Concentration: English Language Arts
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Subject Concentration: Social Studies
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Subject Concentration: Mathematics
 - Pennsylvania Grades 4-8 Subject Concentration: Science

Until the new tests are available to certification candidates, the following tests will be accepted for certification purposes:

Recommendation for Initial Certificates,

Successful completion of the PPST tests and:

Pre K-4

- Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511)
- Early Childhood Education (0020)

Grades 4-8

- Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511)
- Elementary Education: Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (0011)
- Praxis II content area tests for 7-9 middle level areas

Special Education (PreK-8, 7-12)

- Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511)
- Special Education: Core Content Knowledge & Application (0354)
- Praxis II content area tests for Elementary Ed (Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511) -or- Praxis II for 7-12 secondary level

Recommendation for Tests if Applicant Already Holds another Instructional PA Certificate or Is Being Evaluated Under the 3 Out of 7 Rules

Pre K-4

- Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511)

Grades 4-8

- Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511)
- Praxis II content area tests for 7-9 middle level areas

Special Education (PreK-8, 7-12)

- Special Education: Core Content Knowledge & Application (0354) • Refer to NOTE below: Praxis II content area tests for Elementary Ed (Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge (0511) -or- Praxis II for 7-12 secondary level.

Note: Current regulations require that the new Special Education Certificate be issued as a "dual" certificate with at least one area that is content specific (i.e., Grades PK-4, Mathematics, etc.).

If you have any further questions regarding the topics addressed in this Penn*Link, please contact the Certification call center at 717-PaTeach (717-728-3224) or 717-787-3356.