

South Carolina Educator Certification Assessment Program

Required Assessments for the 2019-20 Academic Year

Effective May 28, 2020

S.C. Code Ann. Section 59-26-30 authorizes the South Carolina State Board of Education (SBE) to adopt nationally recognized educator assessments for certification purposes and to establish qualifying scores on each assessment. The SBE has adopted the Praxis series of program admission, content area, and pedagogy assessments, developed and administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS), for use in South Carolina. Assessments administered by other testing companies have been approved on a limited basis as noted.

Testing and Accommodations

Praxis assessments are computer-based and are offered at testing centers in a variety of locations in South Carolina, across the United States, and in other countries. Test-takers may learn more about the Praxis series of assessments including South Carolina requirements at www.ets.org/praxis.

With acceptable documentation, ETS offers paper-based testing and other appropriate accommodations for test-takers with disabilities and medical-related needs. Additional information regarding testing accommodations is available on the ETS website at <http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/disabilities>.

Test-takers whose primary language is not English (PLNE) may be eligible for extended time for testing with appropriate documentation. Additional information is available on the ETS website at http://www.ets.org/praxis/register/plne_accommodations.

Registering for a Praxis Assessment

When registering for Praxis tests through ETS, each test-taker seeking certification in South Carolina must provide his or her **complete nine-digit Social Security number** in order for test scores to be reported to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE). Scores are reported electronically and matched to individual records in South Carolina's electronic certification system based on a complete, accurate Social Security number. If a Social Security number is not listed on a test-taker's score report—or is listed incorrectly, processing of that individual's certification will be delayed and may require the test-taker to request an official score report from ETS at additional cost. Test-takers may access their testing information through their ETS user accounts for a period of ten years.

Certification Assessments for World Languages

South Carolina has approved and will accept qualifying scores on assessments developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL). Candidates seeking certification in a world language using ACTFL assessments must take both the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and the Writing Proficiency Test (WPT). The ACTFL assessments are administered by Language Testing International. Information regarding these assessments is available at <http://www.languagetesting.com>.

Required Certification Assessments

Candidates seeking an Initial certificate in a classroom teaching field in South Carolina must submit qualifying scores on both the subject area and pedagogy assessments approved by the SBE in order to be eligible for and issued a teaching certificate. Educators seeking to add a classroom teaching, service, or leadership field to an existing, valid South Carolina certificate must earn a qualifying score on the subject area assessment approved by the SBE for certification in the area. Out-of-state applicants who hold a current, standard credential in another state and are issued an Initial South Carolina certificate must present a passing score on a required pedagogy assessment during the three-year validity of the Initial certificate in order to advance to a Professional certificate.

Candidates seeking eligibility for an approved alternative route program must earn a qualifying score on the required subject area assessment in the certification area prior to program admission. They must subsequently submit a qualifying score on the required pedagogy assessment during the three years of program participation in order to advance to a standard Professional certificate.

Required Pedagogy Assessments

The following pedagogy assessments are approved for certification in classroom teaching fields in the state of South Carolina. Candidates seeking certification in service fields (i.e., School Guidance Counselor, School Psychologist, Library Media Specialist, and Speech-Language Therapist) as well as leadership fields are not required to take a pedagogy assessment.

Standard Pedagogy Assessment: Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

Classroom Teaching Grade/Age Span	Exam Code	Required Examination Title	Qualifying Score
Early Childhood Areas	5621	PLT: Early Childhood	157
Elementary Areas	5622	PLT: Grades K – 6	160
Middle Level Areas	5623	PLT: Grades 5 – 9	160
High School Areas	5624	PLT: Grades 7-12	157
All PK – 12 Areas	N/A	<i>Select any one of the assessments in this table.</i>	N/A

Optional Pedagogy Assessments: edTPA and PPAT

Effective January 1, 2018, the SBE adopted the teaching performance assessments, edTPA and PPAT, as options for South Carolina’s educator preparation providers to implement within approved teacher preparation programs. These assessments are comprised of a series of performance tasks that candidates must complete as part of a portfolio that is submitted to the respective testing company for scoring. Candidates who are required to complete one of these performance assessments during student teaching to fulfill requirements of the preparation program in which they are enrolled may use a qualifying score on edTPA or PPAT in lieu of the PLT. Out-of-state applicants who completed edTPA or PPAT during student teaching may use a qualifying score on one of these assessments in lieu of the PLT so long as the assessment was

completed after January 1, 2018.

edTPA (Administered by Pearson Evaluation Systems)

Candidates enrolled in teacher preparation programs requiring edTPA will receive comprehensive support and assistance from program faculty regarding the portfolio assessment—or handbook—required for their specific certification area (e.g. Early Childhood Education, Mathematics, Middle Level Social Studies, etc.). Qualifying scores are based on the number of performance tasks or rubrics within the specific handbook. Additional information regarding edTPA requirements for South Carolina are available at <http://www.edtpa.com>.

edTPA Exam	Qualifying Score
edTPA 13-Rubric Handbooks	32
edTPA 15-Rubric Handbooks	37
edTPA 18-Rubric Handbooks	44

Praxis PPAT (Administered by ETS)

Candidates enrolled in teacher preparation programs requiring PPAT will receive comprehensive support and assistance from program faculty regarding the performance tasks that comprise PPAT. Additional information regarding PPAT is available at <http://www.ets.org/ppa/test-takers>.

PPAT Exam	Qualifying Score
PPAT All Areas	36

Required Subject Area Assessments

All assessments are Praxis exams offered by ETS, except as noted.

Certification Area	Exam Code	Required Assessment Name	Qualifying Score
Agriculture	5701	Agriculture	147
Art	5135	Art: Content and Analysis	161
Biology	5235	Biology: Content Knowledge	148
Business/Marketing/Computer Technology	5101	Business Education: Content Knowledge	154
Chemistry	5245	Chemistry: Content Knowledge	152
Chinese**	5665	Chinese (Mandarin): World Language	164
Computer Science	5652	Computer Science	149
Dance		No assessment available.	
Early Childhood	5024	Education of Young Children	160
Early Childhood	5025	<u>May be taken in lieu of Praxis 5024</u> Early Childhood Education	156
Earth and Space Science	5571	Earth and Space Sciences: Content Knowledge	150
Economics*	5911	Economics	144
Elementary Education <i>All subtests required. Use code 5001 to take all four at one time or use subtest codes to register individually.</i>	5001	Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Test	Passing Scores On All Subtests
- Elementary Subtest 1 of 4	5002	Reading/Language Arts Subtest	157
- Elementary Subtest 2 of 4	5003	Mathematics Subtest	157
- Elementary Subtest 3 of 4	5004	Social Studies Subtest	155
- Elementary Subtest 4 of 4	5005	Science Subtest	159
Elementary Education <i>All subtests required. Use code 7811 to take all four at one time or use subtest codes to register individually.</i>	7811	<u>May be taken in lieu of Praxis 5001</u> Elementary Education: Content Knowledge for Teaching (CKT)	Passing Scores On All Subtests
- Elementary Subtest 1 of 4	7812	Reading/Language Arts CKT Subtest	161
- Elementary Subtest 2 of 4	7813	Mathematics CKT Subtest	150
- Elementary Subtest 3 of 4	7814	Science CKT Subtest	154
- Elementary Subtest 4 of 4	7815	Social Studies CKT Subtest	162
English	5039	English Language Arts: Content and Analysis	168
English	5038	<u>May be taken in lieu of Praxis 5039</u> English Language Arts: Content Knowledge	167
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	5362	English to Speakers of Other Languages	155

Certification Area	Exam Code	Required Assessment Name	Qualifying Score
Family and Consumer Science	5122	Family and Consumer Sciences	153
French**	5174	French: World Language	162
Geography*	5921	Geography	149
German**	5183	German: World Language	163
Government*	5931	Government/Political Science	149
Greek <i>two tests required</i>	ACTFL OPI or OPIc <i>and</i> WPT	ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview <i>and</i> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test	Advanced Low Advanced Low
Health	5551	Health Education	164
History*	5941	World and US History: Content Knowledge	150
Industrial Technology Education	5051	Technology Education	159
Italian <i>two tests required</i>	ACTFL OPI or OPIc <i>and</i> WPT	ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview <i>and</i> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test	Advanced Low Advanced Low
Japanese <i>two tests required</i>	ACTFL OPI or OPIc <i>and</i> WPT	ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview <i>and</i> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test	Advanced Low Advanced Low
Latin		No assessment available	
Library Media Specialist	5311	Library Media Specialist	151
Literacy Teacher	5206	Teaching Reading: K–12	156
Literacy Coach	5206	Teaching Reading: K–12	156
Literacy Specialist	5206	Teaching Reading: K–12	156
Mathematics	5161	Mathematics: Content Knowledge	150
Middle Level Language Arts	5047	Middle School English Language Arts	164
Middle Level Mathematics	5169	Middle School Mathematics	165
Middle Level Science	5440	Middle School Science	150
Middle Level Social Studies	5089	Middle School Social Studies	155
Middle Level Social Studies	5086	<u><i>May be taken in lieu of 5089</i></u> Social Studies: Content and Interpretation	153
Montessori Education		Test requirements based upon eligibility. Please review the Montessori Education webpage for additional information.	
Music Education – All Areas	5114	Music: Content and Instruction	162

Certification Area	Exam Code	Required Assessment Name	Qualifying Score
Physical Education	5095	Physical Education: Content and Design	169
Physics	5265	Physics: Content Knowledge	130
Portuguese <i>two tests required</i>	ACTFL OPI or OPIc <i>and</i> WPT	ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview <i>and</i> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test	Advanced Low Advanced Low
Principal, Elementary or Secondary	5412	Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision	146
Psychology	5391	Psychology	154
Russian <i>two tests required</i>	ACTFL OPI/OPIc <i>and</i> WPT	ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview <i>and</i> ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test	Advanced Low Advanced Low
School Guidance Counselor, Elementary or Secondary	5421	Professional School Counselor	156
School Psychologist	5402	School Psychologist	147
Science	5435	General Science: Content Knowledge	150
Social Studies	5086	Social Studies: Content and Interpretation	153
Sociology*	5952	Sociology	154
Spanish**	5195	Spanish: World Language	168
Special Education: Hearing Impairments	5272	Special Education: Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students	160
Special Education: Early Childhood	5691	Special Education: Preschool/Early Childhood	159
Special Education: Emotional Disabilities <i>two tests required</i>	5354 <i>and</i> 5372	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications <i>and</i> Special Education: Teaching Students with Behavioral Disorders/Emotional Disturbances	151 154
Special Education: Intellectual Disabilities <i>two tests required</i>	5354 <i>and</i> 5322	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications <i>and</i> Special Education: Teaching Students with Intellectual Disabilities	151 143
Special Education: Learning Disabilities <i>two tests required</i>	5354 <i>and</i> 5383	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications <i>and</i> Special Education: Teaching Students with Learning Disabilities	151 151
Special Education: Multi-categorical	5543	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Mild-to-Moderate Applications	158

Certification Area	Exam Code	Required Assessment Name	Qualifying Score
Special Education: Severe Disabilities	5545	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Severe to Profound Applications	158
Special Education: Visual Impairments	5282	Special Education: Teaching Students with Visual Impairments	163
Speech-Language Therapist	5331	Speech-Language Pathology	162
Superintendent	5412	Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision	146
Theater	5641	Theatre	157
Vocational Center Director	5412	Educational Leadership: Administration and Supervision	146

* As of January 1, 2019, individuals cannot use Praxis 5086 Social Studies: Content and Interpretation for certification in this area.

** ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview and ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test in the language are also accepted. The qualifying score on each assessment is Advanced Low.