



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Educator Preparation Providers

FROM: Rachel L.H. Burns
Education Associate, Office of Educator Services

DATE: June 14, 2017

RE: Updates on Program Admission Assessment Requirements

On June 13, 2017, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved the South Carolina Department of Education's recommendations to adjust cut scores on two of the three subtests of the Praxis® Core exam and to update the SAT® and ACT® exemption scores for the Praxis® Core exam. Below is an overview of the newly adopted cut scores and exemptions and guidance for implementation.

The SBE approved to adjust the Praxis® Core subtest exams for Writing and Mathematics. The cut score for the Writing subtest was adjusted from 162 to 158. The cut score for the Mathematics subtest was adjusted from 150 to 142. The cut scores for the two subtests were adjusted by one conditional standard error of measurement as determined by Educational Testing Service. The cut score for the Reading subtest of the Praxis® Core exam remains unchanged at 156. Candidate performance on the Reading subtest did not warrant a recommended adjustment to the cut score. The effective date of the newly adjusted scores is September 1, 2016. Therefore, your institution may have candidates who now meet the Praxis® Core examination requirements for admission into an educator preparation program. It is the responsibility of the institution to contact students who are now eligible for program admission based on the newly adjusted cut scores.

The SBE also approved new SAT® exemption scores for candidates who have taken the redesigned SAT® exam administered by The College Board beginning March 5, 2016. Candidates who earned a total score of at least 1100 (Evidence-based Reading and Writing and Math) on the redesigned SAT® may exempt all three subtests of the Praxis® Core exam requirement. A candidate with a score of 550 on the Evidence-based Reading and Writing

portion of the SAT® may exempt the Reading and Writing subtests of Praxis® Core. A candidate who earned at least 550 on the Math portion of the SAT® may exempt the Mathematics subtest of Praxis® Core. Candidates who earned a total score of at least 1650 (Math, Reading, and Writing) on the SAT® administered between 2005 and 2015, may exempt all three subtests of Praxis® Core.

Additionally, the ACT® exemption score has been adjusted to 22, the score that is aligned to the 1100 on the redesigned SAT® based on the concordance tables released by College Board in May 2016. A candidate who earned a composite score of 22 on the ACT® may exempt all three subtests of Praxis® Core. A candidate who earned a score of at least 22 on the English Test may exempt the Reading and Writing subtests of Praxis® Core. A candidate who earned a score of at least 22 on the Math Test may exempt the Mathematics subtest of Praxis® Core.