

South Carolina Program Admission Assessment Requirement

Educator preparation providers must ensure that candidates successfully complete the basic skills assessment requirement established by the State Board of Education (SBE) for full admission to an undergraduate teacher preparation program or that candidates meet an SBE- approved qualifying exemption. The SBE has adopted the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (Praxis Core) series of basic skills assessments in reading, mathematics, and writing to meet the program admission requirement established in State statute (Sections 59-26-10 and 59-26-20). In 2013, the Praxis Core series replaced the Praxis Pre-professional Skills Test (PPST)—commonly referred to as Praxis I.

Current Program Admission Assessment Qualifying Scores

Based on analysis of test-taker performance, the SBE adopted the following qualifying scores for Praxis Core on June 13, 2017. Cut scores on the mathematics and writing tests were adjusted one conditional standard error of measure (CSEM) below the scores originally approved by the SBE in 2013. The original qualifying scores were the recommended values of the multi-state standard setting studies conducted by ETS at the time Praxis Core was developed.

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Cut Score (Approved June 2017)</u>	<u>Previous Cut Score</u>
Praxis Core: Reading (5712)	156	156
Praxis Core: Mathematics (5732)	142	150
Praxis Core: Writing (5722)	158	162

Exemption for Qualifying Scores on the SAT or ACT

On June 13, 2017, the SBE also adopted updated exemptions based on the new SAT administered beginning in 2016 and the related concordance tables for the SAT and ACT.

Current SAT Exemption

- 1100 Composite (Evidence-based Reading and Writing and Math): Candidate may exempt all sections of Praxis Core.
- 550 Evidence-based Reading and Writing: Candidate may exempt Praxis Core Reading and Writing.
- 550 Math: Candidate may exempt Mathematics subtest.

Current ACT Exemption

- 22 Composite: Candidate may exempt all sections of Praxis Core.
- 22 English: Candidate may exempt Reading and Writing subtests.
- 22 Math: Candidate may exempt Mathematics subtest.

With the expanded exemptions for SAT and ACT, fewer candidates are required to take one or more sections of Praxis Core for admission into an undergraduate teacher preparation program.

Three-year Pass Rate on Praxis Core for South Carolina Test-takers

<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Three-year Pass Rate*</u>	
Praxis Core: Reading (5712)	84.59%	(N=4,647)
Praxis Core: Mathematics (5732)	75.26%	(N=4,997)
Praxis Core: Writing (5722)	74.76%	(N=4,887)

*Data provided by Educational Testing Service on November 1, 2018, based on the highest score earned by candidates indicating enrollment in a South Carolina institution during the 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-18 academic years.