



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

July 13, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

**SUBJECT:** Teacher Shortage: Expansion of Current Teacher Testing Requirement Options

On July 12, 2022, the State Board of Education temporarily approved additional teacher testing options for individuals seeking initial certification after completion of an Alabama State-Approved Educator Preparation Program or for individuals seeking to begin an alternative certification approach. These modifications are being implemented to assist local education agencies (LEAs) and educator preparation providers as they work to increase the quantity of available teachers in Alabama.

The options listed below pertain to applications received in the Educator Certification Section of the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) on July 12, 2022, and will not be available after the 2023-2024 scholastic year (June 30, 2024).

**Individuals Who Have Completed an Alabama State-Approved Educator Preparation Program:**

**Option 1 - Application for the Professional Educator Certificate will be made by the recommending Alabama college/university.**

Requirements	Status
Alabama-approved Praxis subject area test(s)	The individual meets the required score.
Foundations of Reading test, where applicable	The individual meets the required score.
Teaching Field GPA	The individual meets the Teaching Field GPA of at least 2.5.
edTPA	The individual meets the required score.
The individual is eligible for a Professional Educator Certificate if all other Alabama state-approved program requirements are met.	

**Option 2 - Application for the Professional Educator Certificate will be made by the recommending Alabama college/university.**

Requirements	Status
Alabama-approved Praxis subject area test(s)	The individual scores within -1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM)* of the <b>current</b> required score.
Foundations of Reading test, where applicable	The individual meets the required score.
Teaching Field GPA	The individual meets <b>an increased</b> Teaching Field GPA of at least 2.75.
edTPA	The individual meets the required score.
The individual is eligible for a Professional Educator Certificate if all other Alabama state-approved program requirements are met.	

\* -1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM) Score Requirements for Alabama-approved Praxis subject-area tests document is attached.

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**Option 3 - Application for the Non-Professional Temporary Certificate will be made by the employing Alabama superintendent in conjunction with the recommending Alabama college/university.**

Requirements	Status
Alabama-approved Praxis subject area test(s)	The individual scores within -1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM)* of the <b>current</b> required score.
Foundations of Reading test, where applicable	The individual meets the required score.
Teaching Field GPA	The individual <b>does not meet an increased</b> Teaching Field GPA of at least 2.75.
edTPA	The individual meets the required score.
The individual is <b>not initially</b> eligible for a Professional Educator Certificate.	
If an individual has completed all other Alabama state-approved program requirements and graduated from an Alabama college/university, an additional option to successfully complete a teacher testing program is available. An LEA may request up to three (3) one-year <i>Non-Professional Temporary Certificates</i> to facilitate employment. To progress to the Professional Educator Certificate, the individual must complete the following while holding the <i>Non-Professional Temporary Certificates</i> :	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earn the current required score on the Alabama-approved Praxis subject-area test(s).</li> <li style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></li> <li>• Successfully complete at least 100 hours of ALSDE approved high-quality professional learning or micro credentials. The high-quality professional learning/micro credentials must be in the area of the certificate and at the cost of the individual or the LEA.</li> </ul>	
The <i>Non-Professional Temporary Certificates</i> shall not be counted in determining continuing service status.	

\* -1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM) Score Requirements for Alabama-approved Praxis subject-area tests document is attached.

**Individuals Who are Pursuing Professional Educator Certification Through an Alternative Certification Approach:**

**Option 1 - Application for the Alternative Certificate will be made by the employing Alabama superintendent.**

Requirements for 1st Alternative Certificate	
Requirements	Status
Overall GPA	The individual must meet the overall 2.5 overall GPA** requirement <b>or</b> meet the alternate Praxis score requirement to be eligible for this option.***
Alabama-approved Praxis subject area test(s)	The individual meets the required score.
Foundations of Reading test, where applicable	The individual meets the required score.
<b>Required for the Professional Educator Certificate following completion of the Alternative Approach</b>	
If the individual held the Alternative Certificate for one (1) or two (2) scholastic years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• edTPA</li> </ul>	The individual meets the required score.
If the individual held the Alternative Certificate for three (3) scholastic years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• edTPA</li> <li style="text-align: center;"><b>or</b></li> <li>• Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) performance assessment</li> </ul>	The individual meets the required score.
The individual is eligible for a Professional Educator Certificate if all other alternative certification requirements are met.	

\*\*Overall GPA of 2.5 for appropriately accredited bachelor's degree or overall GPA of 3.0 for master's or higher degree.

\*\*\*The alternate Praxis score will continue to be required for individuals who have an overall GPA of 2.00 to 2.49. Individuals with an overall GPA of less than 2.00 will not be eligible to use the alternate Praxis score or to begin the alternative certification approach.

**Option 2 - Application for the Alternative Certificate will be made by the employing Alabama superintendent.**

<b>Requirements for 1st Alternative Certificate</b>	
<b>Requirements</b>	<b>Status</b>
Overall GPA	The individual must meet the overall 2.5 GPA** requirement to be eligible for this option.
Alabama-approved Praxis subject area test(s)	The individual scores within -1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM)* of the <i>current</i> required score.
Foundations of Reading test, where applicable	The individual meets the required score.
Teaching Field Coursework	The individual has at least 15 semester hours of coursework (Grade B or above) in the specific content area(s) to be taught.
<b>Required for the Professional Educator Certificate following completion of the Alternative Approach</b>	
If the individual held the Alternative Certificate for one (1) or two (2) scholastic years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• edTPA</li> </ul>	The individual meets the required score.
If the individual held the Alternative Certificate for three (3) scholastic years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• edTPA</li> <li><b>or</b></li> <li>• Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) performance assessment</li> </ul>	The individual meets the required score.
The individual is eligible for a Professional Educator Certificate if all other alternative certification requirements are met.	

\* -1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM) Score Requirements for Alabama-approved Praxis subject-area tests document is attached.

\*\*Overall GPA of 2.5 for appropriately accredited bachelor's degree or overall GPA of 3.0 for master's or higher degree.

Guidance regarding the application process will be distributed as soon as possible. For additional information regarding the testing modifications outlined in this memorandum, please contact Dr. Deanise F. Peacock, Assessment Administrator, by email at [dpeacock@alsde.edu](mailto:dpeacock@alsde.edu).

EGM/DFP/HMS

Attachment

cc: Deans of Colleges of Education  
Mrs. Angela Martin  
Mr. Chuck Marcum  
Ms. Shavon Harris  
Dr. Deanise F. Peacock

FY22-2069



**Alabama State Department of Education**  
**Educator Assessment**

**-1 Standard Error of Measure (SEM) Score Requirements**

<b>Praxis Test Title</b>	<b>Praxis Test Code</b>	<b>-1 SEM</b>
Agriculture	5701	142
Algebra I	5162	150
Art: Content Knowledge	5134	153
Biology: Content Knowledge	5235	146
Business Education: Content Knowledge	5101	150
Chemistry: Content Knowledge	5245	145
Computer Science	5652	143
Early Childhood Education	5025	151
Elementary Education: Three Subject Bundle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• Social Studies</li> <li>• Science</li> </ul>	<b>5901</b> 5903 5904 5905	148 147 151
	<b>OR</b>	
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (mathematics, social studies, and science subtests only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• Social Studies</li> <li>• Science</li> </ul>	<b>5001</b> 5003 5004 5005	148 147 151
English Language Arts: Content Knowledge	5038	163
English to Speakers of Other Languages	5362	150
Family and Consumer Sciences	5122	149
French: World Language	5174	157
General Science: Content Knowledge	5435	147
Geography	5921	148
Geometry	5163	139
German: World Language	5183	158
Gifted Education	5358	152
Health Education	5551	149
Latin	5601	147
Mathematics: Content Knowledge (Expires 8/31/22)	5161	153
Mathematics (Begins 9/1/22)	5165	152
Middle School English Language Arts	5047	159
Middle School Mathematics (Expires 8/31/22)	5169	159
Middle School Mathematics (Begins 9/1/22)	5164	150
Middle School Science (Expired 8/31/21)	5440	145
Middle School Science (Began 9/1/21)	5442	147
Middle School Social Studies	5089	147
Music: Content Knowledge	5113	156
Physical Education: Content Knowledge	5091	146
Physics: Content Knowledge	5265	133
Pre-Kindergarten Education	5531	150
Social Studies: Content Knowledge	5081	151
Spanish: World Language	5195	163
Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications	5354	149
Technology Education	5051	154
Theatre	5641	149
World and U.S. History: Content Knowledge	5941	143