



# TEACHER TESTING (PRAXIS)

FALL 2011

*What is the PRAXIS?*

The PRAXIS Series: Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers, is a battery of tests that measure various academic achievements and proficiencies.

*Who must take the tests?*

Candidates seeking PA Level I certificate(s). Candidates seeking initial or additional certification in more than one Instructional I area must complete all appropriate Specialty Area tests.

*How many tests must I take?*

See the back of this page for information on scheduling the pertinent tests.

*How do I register?*

Registration information is available on-line at <http://www.ets.org/praxis/register>

*Where can I take the tests?*

PRAXIS tests are offered at various locations via pencil and paper at colleges and universities throughout the country, including more than 30 centers in Pennsylvania. PPST tests are also offered via computer. (Not offered at University Park).

*When are the tests given?*

September 17, 2011, November 12, 2011, January 14, 2012, March 10, 2012, April 28, 2012, June 9, 2012 and July 21, 2012.

[PPST not offered at any centers in September or June, but available daily at Computer-Based Testing Centers].

*Who should receive my scores?*

Test scores must be reported to PSU (recipient code **R2660**). Tests administered in PA are automatically reported to PDE. If completed outside of PA, scores must be reported to PDE (recipient code **R8033**)

*How long do the tests take?*

One or two hours per test.

*Can I complete all tests on the same day?*

A maximum of two sessions are offered on the same day. The first digit of the test code indicates the session during which each test is offered.

*When should I schedule the tests?*

Registration deadlines are published in the PRAXIS Series Registration Bulletin. Penn State students must meet qualifying scores for the **PPST Reading,\* Mathematics\* and Writing\*** tests prior to participating in the formal "entrance" process to Instructional I teacher certification programs. The remaining tests typically are completed prior to student teaching.

*What if I miss the registration deadline?*

"Stand By" testing no longer available, but late registration (\$45) and emergency registration (\$75) is offered.

*How much does it cost?*

There is an annual registration fee of \$50 for pencil & paper tests. Each of the three components of the **PPST** is \$40. The **Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge\*\*** test is \$80. **Most Specialty Area** tests are \$80. A separate registration process is required for each test date. Computerized PPST tests cost an additional fee.

*Are the tests accepted by other states?*

Some states have similar test requirements. The Registration Bulletin lists specific requirements.

*What if I don't meet the passing scores for one or more of the tests?*

Qualifying scores for PA effective September 1, 2008 are listed on the back. You may retake any of the tests.

For information on the PPST Alternate Scoring Method: [www.ed.psu.edu/educ/current-students/undergraduate](http://www.ed.psu.edu/educ/current-students/undergraduate)

*How can I study for the tests?*

The best preparation for any test is the knowledge and experience you have gained from your teacher preparation program. Study Guides and "Tests at a Glance," providing brief content outlines and sample questions, as well as diagnostic aids are available on-line at: [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org)

*What if I passed a previously required test?*

Previously completed tests will be accepted by PDE for a period of ten years from the test date administration.

*Can teachers add a certification area simply by taking a PRAXIS test?*

PDE will issue additional Instructional I certificates (except Early Childhood, Elementary, Special Education, Health & Physical Education and Reading Specialist) if the Qualifying Scores for the pertinent PRAXIS II subject tests are met.

\* The **PPST Reading, Mathematics, and Writing** tests are required for entrance into **all** Penn State teacher certification programs. Candidates typically must meet qualifying scores for the tests by the end of their third semester.

\*\* Includes World Languages, but not required for SECED: ENGL/COMM, MATH, SCIENCE or CITIZENSHIP/SOCIAL STUDIES.

**CANDIDATES MUST MEET ANY QUALIFYING SCORES IN EFFECT AT THE TIME THEIR APPLICATION IS RECEIVED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.** This publication is available in alternative media on request. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

# WHAT TESTS ARE REQUIRED IN PENNSYLVANIA?

FALL 2011

CERTIFICATION AREA	TEST CODE	TEST TITLE	CURRENT PENNSYLVANIA QUALIFYING SCORE	FEE
<b>ALL</b> Instructional I Areas * <i>and</i>	10710	PPST - Reading <u>or</u> 5710 (computer-based)	[1 hour test] 172	\$40
<b>ALL</b> Educational Specialist I Areas+	10730	PPST - Math <u>or</u> 5730 (computer-based)	[1 hour test] 173	\$40
	20720	PPST - Writing <u>or</u> 5720 (computer-based)	[1 hour test] 173	\$40
[Information on PPST Alternate Scoring Method: <a href="http://www.ed.psu.edu/edservices/testing/altPPST.asp">www.ed.psu.edu/edservices/testing/altPPST.asp</a> ]				
<b>ALL</b> K-6, K-12 and N-12 Areas	20511	Fundamental Subjects: Content Knowledge	150	\$80
[Not required for SECED (7-12) certification]				

## Instructional I Specialty Area Tests:

Agriculture	10780	Agriculture (PA)	520	\$80
Art	10134	Art: Content Knowledge	158	\$80
Biology	20235	Biology: Content Knowledge	147	\$80
Chemistry	20245	Chemistry: Content Knowledge	154	\$80
Communication	20800	Communication (PA)	530	\$80
Cooperative Education	10810	Cooperative Education (PA)	770	\$80
Early Childhood Education	10020	Early Childhood Education	530	\$80
Earth/Space	20571	Earth Science: Content Knowledge	157	\$80
Elementary Education	10011	Elem. Curr., Instr. & Assessment (paper <u>or</u> computer-based)	168	\$80
English	10041	English Lang, Lit & Comp: Content Knowledge	160	\$80
Environmental Education	10830	Environmental Education (PA)	600	\$80
French++	ACTFL	Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) & Written Proficiency Test (WPT)	ImHi	\$199
General Science	10435	General Science: Content Knowledge	146	\$80
German++	ACTFL	Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) & Written Proficiency Test (WPT)	ImHi	\$199
Health and Physical Education	20856	Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge	146	\$80
Latin++	10600	Latin	610	\$80
Mathematics	10061	Mathematics: Content and Knowledge	136	\$80
Middle School English**	10049	Middle School English Language Arts	163	\$80
Middle School Mathematics**	20069	Middle School Mathematics	151	\$80
Middle School Science**	10439	Middle School Science	144	\$80
Middle School Social Studies**	20089	Middle School Social Studies	152	\$80
Music	10113	Music: Content Knowledge	158	\$80
Physics	10265	Physics: Content Knowledge	140	\$80
Reading Specialist	20300	Reading Specialist	570	\$80
Russian++	ACTFL	Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) & Written Proficiency Test (WPT)	ImHi	\$199
Social Studies/Citizenship	10081	Social Studies: Content Knowledge	157	\$80
	10087	Citizenship Education: Content Knowledge	148	\$80
Spanish ++	ACTFL	Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) & Written Proficiency Test (WPT)	ImHi	\$199
Special Education	10354	Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications	151	\$80
Speech/Language Impaired	10880	Teaching Speech to Students with Language Impairments <u>or</u>	590	\$80
	20330	Speech Language Pathology	600	\$80
School Counselor I+	20420	School Guidance Counseling	590	\$80
School Psychologist I+	10401	School Psychology	560	\$80
Supervisor I	10411	Ed Leadership: Administration and Supervision	143	\$80
Vocational I	10710	PPST - Reading <u>or</u> 5710 (computer-based)	[1 hour test] 172	\$40
Vocational I	20720	PPST - Writing <u>or</u> 5720 (computer-based)	[1 hour test] 173	\$40
Vocational Instructional II	10730	PPST - Math <u>or</u> 5730 (computer-based)	[1 hour test] 173	\$40
Vocational Instructional II	20524	Principles of Learning and Teaching or (PDE 430)	167	\$90
Principal/Vocational Director	11011	School Leaders Licensure Assessment	TBA	\$255

The **first digit** of the "Test Code" indicates the session during which the test is offered. Most tests are two hours unless otherwise noted.

\*The **PPST** (Reading, Mathematics & Writing ) tests are requirements for entrance into **ALL** Instructional I teacher certification programs.

\*\*Effective 9/1/13, it no longer will be possible to add Middle School areas through PDE's "PRAXIS testing" option.

+PPST (R/M/W) required if Educational Specialist certificate is first PA credential.

++ Foreign Language French, German, and Spanish candidates have the option of taking either the PRAXIS or the ACTFL test. The Foreign Language Latin test is only available through PRAXIS. Candidates for all other Foreign Language areas should take the ACTFL test, which includes a written (when available) and oral exam that is graded on a proficiency scale rather than a point scale. Both the written and oral exams must be taken when available. The minimum proficiency to qualify is Intermediate High - Code 120. Candidates may contact the ACTFL Language Testing office at [www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org) or at 914-963-7110.

**CANDIDATES MUST MEET ANY QUALIFYING SCORES IN EFFECT AT THE TIME THEIR APPLICATION IS RECEIVED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (PDE).**

**Qualifying scores of approved tests will be accepted by PDE for a period of ten years from the date of administration.**

Elementary School: Content Knowledge (test code 0014 or 5014) not required in PA.