

Professional Teacher's Assessment Requirements for Virginia Licensure and the School Leadership Assessment for Principals

Introduction

Applicants requesting initial teaching licensure are required to achieve passing scores on professional teacher's assessments prescribed by the Board of Education **unless** exempted based on three years of full-time successful teaching experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school in a state other than Virginia and a valid out-of-state license (full credential with no deficiencies) as described below under the topic, "Exemption Criteria." Applicants seeking the Technical Professional License, Pupil Personnel Services License, International License, and School Manager License are not required to complete the professional teacher's assessment. If an individual becomes employed by a **Virginia school division or accredited nonpublic school** in a contractual teaching position, has met the endorsement (teaching area) requirements, and has not satisfied the professional teacher's assessments, a **three-year, nonrenewable** provisional license may be issued upon the request of the Virginia employing educational agency.

Exemption Criteria

Individuals who hold a valid out-of-state license (full credential with no deficiencies) and who have completed a minimum of three years of full-time, successful teaching experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school (kindergarten through grade 12) in a state other than Virginia are exempted from the professional teacher's assessment requirements (VCLA, Praxis II, and the VRA). Experience as a substitute teacher or as a teacher's aide is not acceptable experience to meet this exemption.

[Please note that the valid out-of-state license (full credential with no deficiencies) and the documented teaching experience must be submitted with the application for the license.]

Assessments Required as prescribed by the Virginia Board of Education for Teacher Preparation Programs

The Praxis I (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics) assessment continues to be required as the prescribed test for entry into a Virginia teacher preparation program. The SAT, ACT scores or the VCLA/Praxis I-Mathematics may be used as substitute tests for Praxis I as listed below. Please consult with the Virginia teacher preparation program for more information.

PRAXIS I

Pre-Professional Skills Test (Paper-Based)

PRAXIS I	TEST CODE	PASSING SCORES
Mathematics	10730	178 or better
Reading	10710	178 or better
Writing	20720	<u>176</u> or better
PPST Composite Score:		532 or better

Pre-Professional Skills Test (Computerized-PPST)*

PRAXIS I	TEST CODE	PASSING SCORES
Mathematics	5730	178 or better
Reading	5710	178 or better
Writing	5720	<u>176</u> or better
C-PPST Composite Score:		532 or better

To schedule an appointment for a Computerized PPST test, call Prometric® Candidate Services, at 800-853-6773 or TTY 800-529-3590. For more information on Praxis I visit the ODU Teacher Education Services website at: <http://education.odu.edu/tes/pages/praxis.shtml>

SUBSTITUTE TEST SCORES FOR PRAXIS I:

One of the following options may be used to meet the Praxis I requirement.

1. SAT AS A SUBSTITUTE TEST FOR PRAXIS I - On March 24, 2004, the Board of Education approved the use of the SAT® as a substitute test for Praxis I (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics) required for initial licensure. The board approved the following scores:

SAT Taken Prior to April 1, 1995 -- a score of **1000** with at least **450** on the verbal and **510** on the mathematics tests

SAT Taken After April 1, 1995 -- a score of **1100** with at least **530** on the verbal and **530** on the mathematics tests

2. ACT AS A SUBSTITUTE TEST FOR PRAXIS I - On September 22, 2004, the Board of Education approved the use of the ACT® as a substitute test for Praxis I (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics) required for initial licensure. The board approved the following scores:

ACT Taken Prior to April 1, 1995 -- a composite score of 21, with the ACT mathematics score of no less than 21, and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than 37. **ACT scores taken prior to 1989 are not valid.**

ACT Taken After April 1, 1995 -- a composite score of 24, with the ACT mathematics score no less than 22, and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than 46

3. VCLA and Praxis I MATHEMATICS AS A SUBSTITUTE TEST FOR PRAXIS I

On June 18, 2010, the Virginia Board of Education approved the use of the VCLA and Praxis I Mathematics as a substitute test for Praxis I required for admission to a Virginia teacher preparation approved program. The Board approved the following scores:

VCLA – Reading and Writing	Composite score – 470 or better
AND	
Praxis I - Mathematics	178 or better

4. VCLA and SAT MATHEMATICS AS A SUBSTITUTE TEST FOR PRAXIS I

VCLA – Reading and Writing	Composite score – 470 or better
AND	
SAT Mathematics	510 or better prior to 4/1/95 530 or better after 4/1/95

5. VCLA and ACT

VCLA – Reading and Writing	Composite score – 470 or better
AND	
ACT – Mathematics	21 or better prior to 4/1/95 22 or better after 4/1/95

VIRGINIA COMMUNICATION AND LITERACY ASSESSMENT (VCLA)

The Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment became effective January 1, 2006, for initial licensure unless an individual meets the exemption criteria. Refer to the following Web site for more information about the test content, test dates, costs, accommodations for individuals with disabilities, and registration: www.va.nesinc.com. **On March 22, 2006, the Board of Education approved cut scores for the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA).** The required cut off scores for the VCLA are as follows:

Writing Sub Test Code: 092 235	Reading Sub Test Code: 091 235	Composite Score: 470
-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------------

READING FOR VIRGINIA EDUCATORS

Effective July 1, 2011, the Virginia Department of Education will implement changes in the required reading assessments for certain endorsements. For teachers seeking an initial license with endorsements in Early/Primary Education PK-3, Elementary Education PK-6, Special Education - General Curriculum, Special Education - Hearing Impairments, and Special Education - Visual Impairments, the required reading assessment will be (5306) Reading for Virginia Educators: Elementary and Special Education (RVE). For teachers seeking an endorsement as a Reading Specialist, the required assessment will be (5304) Reading for Virginia Educators: Reading Specialist (RVE for Reading Specialists).

[Test at a Glance - Reading for Virginia Educators: Elementary and Special Education Teachers](#)

[Test at a Glance - Reading for Virginia Educators: Reading Specialist](#)

Test Code: 5306 Passing Score: 157	
Early/Primary Education prek-3 Elementary Education prek-6	Special Education-General Curriculum Special Education-Hearing Impairments Special Education-Visual Impairments
Test Code: 5304 Passing Score: 162	
Reading Specialist	The RVE assessment is required for individuals seeking an endorsement as a Reading Specialist

Note: Even though the Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA) and Virginia Reading Assessment for Reading Specialists (VRA for Reading Specialists) will not be administered after June 30, 2011, the Virginia Department of Education will continue to accept passing scores on the VRA assessments from individuals who took the tests prior to June 30, 2011 and earned a passing score.

VIRGINIA TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS

For information on the assessments prescribed by the Board of Education for admission into a teacher preparation program in Virginia, please visit: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/educator_preparation/college_programs/entry_assessment.pdf.

Source: Virginia Department of Education, January 5, 2012