

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
November 20, 2024

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Sections 1001.02, 1012.55(1), 1012.56, 1012.59, Florida Statutes (F.S.)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department's Office of Assessment, Bureau of Postsecondary Assessment develops and administers the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE). Section 1012.56(10)(b), F.S., requires the State Board of Education to specify, by rule, the examination scores required for the issuance of a professional certificate and temporary certificate. Pursuant to Rule 6A-4.0021(9)(cc), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the Department reviews these tests in five-year cycles. Accordingly, the following examinations were reviewed: English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) K-12; Exceptional Student Education (ESE) K-12; English 6-12 (both subtests: Multiple-Choice and Writing); Middle Grades English 5-9 (both subtests: Multiple-Choice and Writing); Mathematics 6-12; Middle Grades Mathematics 5-9; Music K-12; Reading K-12; Speech-Language Impaired K-12; Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading; Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 4: Mathematics; Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 Subtest 2: Language Arts and Reading; Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 Subtest 3: Mathematics; and the General Knowledge test (all four subtests: Essay, English Language Skills [ELS], Reading, and Mathematics).

To set new passing scores for the listed FTCE test areas, the Department reached out to 498 content experts with over 200 participating in convened statewide committees of teachers, university/college professors, and district curriculum coordinators with expertise in the affected content areas. The committee sizes ranged from 10 to 15 content experts across all fields. These committees use an established and widely accepted standard-setting methodology to recommend passing scores.

The recommended passing scores are based on expectations of examinee performance with respect to the updated State Board of Education-approved competencies and skills and serve as the minimum threshold for the knowledge that a beginning effective teacher candidate needs to be successful. The proposed passing scores reflect the Commissioner's final recommendations based on the input from the committees and the public.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C.

Facilitators/Presenters: Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner; Accountability, Research, and Measurement