
3E

Action

Professional Services Committee

Adoption of the Passing Score Standard for the California Subject Examinations for Teachers Multiple Subjects and English Examinations

AGENDA INSERT

Executive Summary: This agenda item provides (a) foundational information about the standard setting process and (b) recommendations for passing score standards for the CSET: Multiple Subjects and CSET: English examinations, which have been updated to align with the Common Core State Standards.

Policy Question: Do the recommended passing score standards for the CSET: Multiple Subjects and CSET: English examinations meet Commission expectations?

Recommended Action: That the Commission adopt the recommended passing score standard for the CSET: Multiple Subjects and CSET: English examinations.

Presenter: Michael Taylor, Consultant, Professional Services Division

Strategic Plan Goal:

I. Educator Quality

- ◆ Develop, maintain, and promote high quality authentic, consistent educator assessments and examinations that support development and certification of educators who have demonstrated the capacity to be effective practitioners.

Adoption of the Passing Score Standard for the California Subject Examinations for Teachers Multiple Subjects and English Examinations

Results of the Standard Setting Studies

The Standard Setting Panels followed the procedures outlined in the agenda item to determine recommendations for the CSET: Multiple Subjects and CSET: English minimum passing scores. Following the standard setting studies, Evaluation Systems group of Pearson (Evaluation Systems) calculated the median panel-recommended passing score based on the individual members' recommendations and the Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) for each subtest. The full SEM for each subtest, referred to as +/- 1 SEM, ranges from 1 to 3 raw score points depending on subtest. Table 3 below provides a summary of the CSET: Multiple Subjects recommendations, including the number of scorable items by item type, the total possible scores by item type, the median panel-recommended raw score total, the recommended application of the calculated SEM, and resulting first time pass rates for examinees who took the exams between August 11, when administration of the revised exams began, and September 6, 2014. For CSET: Multiple Subjects only Subtests I and II, which measure knowledge of Language Arts and Mathematics, were revised.

Table 3: CSET: Multiple Subjects Panel-Recommended Passing Scores

Subtest	Item Type ¹	Scorable Items	Total Possible Score Points	Computed Median of Panel Recommendations	Median Panel Recommendation with -1 SEM Applied	First – time Pass Rate ²	Weighting (MC/CR)
MS I (101)	MC	46	46	26	23	74%	70/30
	CR	4	24	16	14		
MS II (102)	MC	46	46	27	24	74%	70/30
	CR	4	24	14	12		

¹ MC = multiple-choice test item, CR = constructed-response test item

² Based on the Median Panel Recommendation with -1 SEM applied

Table 4 below provides a summary of the CSET: English recommendations, including the number of scorable items by item type, the total possible scores for each subtest, the median panel-recommended raw score total, the recommended application of the calculated SEM, and resulting first time pass rates for the population of test takers included in the standard setting study. There is no weighting for CSET: English because each subtest contains a single item type.

Table 4: CSET: English Panel-Recommended Passing Scores

Subtest	Item Type ¹	Scorable Items	Total Possible Score Points	Computed Median of Panel Recommendations	Median Panel Recommendation with -1 SEM Applied	First – time Pass Rate ³
Eng I (105)	MC	46	46	31	28	74%
Eng II (106)	MC	46	46	31	28	84%
Eng III (107)	CR	2	16	11	10	67% ²
Eng IV (108)	CR	4	24	16	14	94%

¹ MC = multiple-choice test item, CR = constructed-response test item

² Fewer than 100 examinees in the sample. First-time pass rates for these subtests are likely to change with more examinees.

³ Based on the Median Panel Recommendation with -1 SEM applied

Table 5 provides the number of individuals who completed each subtest with the revised items.

Table 5: Number of Individuals who Completed each Subtest

Multiple Subject		Single Subject English			
MS 1	MS 2	Eng 1	Eng 2	Eng 3	Eng 4
513	524	135	114	78	81

Staff-Recommended Passing Standards

For the CSET: Multiple Subjects and the CSET: English, staff recommends that the Commission adopt the median Standard Setting Panel recommended passing scores with -1 SEM applied for each subtest as shown in Tables 3 and 4 above.

Appendix D
CSET: Multiple Subjects and CSET: English Standard Setting Panels Demographic Characteristics

CSET: MULTIPLE SUBJECTS (101 & 102)
STANDARD SETTING PANEL DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Total Number	
Participated	7
Ethnicity	
African American or Black	
Asian American	1
Filipino	-
Southeast Asian American	-
Pacific Island American	-
Mexican American / Chicano	-
Latin American / Other Hispanic	-
Native American	-
White (non-Hispanic)	6
Other	-
Gender	
Female	7
Male	0
Region	
North	2
South	5
Current Profession	
Public School Educator	6
College/University Educator	1
Other	-
Years of K-12 Public Education Experience	
0-3	1
4-6	-
7-10	3
11+	3
College or University Experience	
College/University Educator	2
Taught College Courses in Past 3 years	2

CSET: ENGLISH (105-108)
STANDARD SETTING PANEL DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Total Number	
Participated	7
Ethnicity	
African American or Black	-
Asian American	-
Filipino	-
Southeast Asian American	-
Pacific Island American	1
Mexican American / Chicano	-
Latin American / Other Hispanic	-
Native American	-
White (non-Hispanic)	6
Other	-
Gender	
Female	6
Male	1
Region	
North	3
South	4
Current Profession	
Public School Educator	5
College/University Educator	1
Other	1
Years of K-12 Public Education Experience	
0-3	2
4-6	2
7-10	2
11+	1
College or University Experience	
College/University Educator	3
Taught College Courses in Past 3 years	2