
2B

Information/Action

Professional Services Committee

Update on the Revision of the CPACE Examination and Approval of the Test Structure and Weighting for the Revised CPACE Examination for Expedited Route Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Candidates

Executive Summary: This agenda item presents an update on the work to revise the CPACE examination as directed by the Commission in February 2014 and also provides the proposed test structure and weighting for the revised CPACE examination for expedited route preliminary administrative services candidates for Commission review and potential approval.

Policy Question: Do the proposed test structure and weighting meet the Commission's purposes and expectations for the revised/updated CPACE content assessment and the new CPACE performance assessment for expedited route preliminary administrative services credential candidates?

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Commission approve the proposed test structure and weighting for the revised/updated CPACE content assessment and the new CPACE performance assessment for expedited route preliminary administrative services credential candidates.

Presenter: Phyllis Jacobson, Administrator, 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.

June 2014

Update on the Revision of the CPACE Examination and Approval of the Test Structure and Weighting for the Revised CPACE Examination for Expedited Route Preliminary Administrative Services Credential Candidates

Introduction

This agenda item presents an update on the work to revise the CPACE examination as directed by the Commission in February 2014 and also presents the proposed test structure and weighting for the revised CPACE examination for expedited route preliminary administrative services candidates for Commission review and potential approval.

Background

The Commission is in the process of updating the examinations and assessments used by individuals seeking to earn an administrative services credential by passing a Commission approved test rather than completing an accredited preliminary preparation program. The California Preliminary Administrative Credential Examination (CPACE) is the examination that has been in use since 2011 for this purpose. At the February 2014 Commission meeting, the Commission took the following actions:

- Authorized moving forward with the significant upgrade of the content portion of the CPACE as originally planned in December 2013
- Authorized the development of a new content/scenario-based Performance Assessment that would replace the existing performance component of CPACE
- Authorized continuing to make access to the expedited (examination) route available during the period of time when the two new assessments would be developed by extending the administration of the current examination through winter 2015

Current Status of CPACE Revisions/Updates

In revising/updating the existing assessment for the expedited route, the Commission's testing contractor works with an advisory panel of California administrator preparation experts and practicing administrators appointed by the Executive Director to revise the current examination item bank for purposes of developing the Content Assessment in accordance with the Commission's direction and focusing on higher levels of thinking skills, and to guide the work of developing performance assessment items for the new CPACE Performance Assessment component.

A content expert panel in school administration has been recruited and appointed by the Executive Director to undertake this work. Panel members were recruited through notices in the PSD eNews, letters sent to Deans and Directors of administrative services preparation

programs, and information provided at other meetings held with administrative services experts working in the area of administrator induction. Applications were reviewed by Commission staff and the most qualified applicants were recommended to the Executive Director for appointment.

The panel consists of eleven members, of whom four are current principals, two are district/county level administrators working with school principals, three are faculty in administrative services preparation programs, one is an ACSA administrator working with administrator preparation and support programs, and one is a nonprofit education agency administrator of school leadership and support programs. Because this is an expert panel working in the area of examinations development, only demographic information is provided here about the panel’s membership. In addition to the panel members appointed by the Executive Director, Commissioner Martin is serving as a liaison from the Commission to the panel’s work.

The panel’s initial work began the first week of June 2014 with the review of the current CPACE item bank, and will continue in October 2014 with a review of revised test items as well as of new test items developed for the performance assessment component. The CPACE development effort is on an accelerated schedule in order to meet the Commission’s expectation of the availability of this assessment for use with candidates in summer 2015. Below is the calendar of the key test development activities and dates in order to meet the Commission’s goal of having the first administration of the revised CPACE in June 2015.

Key CPACE Test Development Activity	Date
Commission adopts CPACE Content and Performance Expectations	December 2013
Item validation meetings with Content Expert Advisory Panel	June 2014
Development of new test items and materials	Summer 2014
Test items and materials review with Content Expert Advisory Panel	October 2014
Field testing of test items	February 2015
Selection of marker papers for scoring purposes	May 2015
Website and test preparation materials posting	May 2015
First test administration	June 2015
Standard setting study	Summer 2015
Commission adopts passing score standard	August 2015

Proposed Test Structure and Weighting for the Revised/Updated CPACE Examination

The test structure and weighting presented in Attachment A were designed to meet several important psychometric considerations, including the number of domains, content coverage, item types, minimum number of scorable MCQs (Multiple Choice Questions) per domain, and the Commission’s emphasis on areas of Instructional Leadership for the performance assessment component.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the Test Structure and Weighting for the revised/updated CPACE Content Assessment and the CPACE Performance Assessment as presented in Attachment A.

Next Steps

Staff, the contractor, and the Content Expert Development Advisory Panel are moving forward with the development of the revised/updated CPACE examination for expedited route preliminary administrative services credential candidates in accordance with the Commission's adopted examinations development process and the timeline necessary to meet the Commission's expectation of the availability of this assessment for use with candidates in fall 2015.

Attachment A: Proposed CPACE Test Structure and Weighting

DOMAIN	# COMPETENCIES	Content (603)		Performance (604)	
		APPROX. # OF MCQs	# AND TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT	# AND TYPE OF ASSIGNMENT	
I: Visionary Leadership	4	12 (10 scorable)	3 focused written assignments (1- to 2-pg. each) scored on a 4-pt. scale	Module 1: School Leadership	
II: Instructional Leadership	4	14 (12 scorable)			Module 2: Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness
III: School Improvement Leadership	4	12 (10 scorable)			
IV: Professional Learning and Growth Leadership	3	11 (9 scorable)			Module 2: Evaluating Teacher Effectiveness
V: Organizational and Systems Leadership	3	11 (9 scorable)			
VI: Community Leadership	2	10 (8 scorable)			
TOTAL	20	70 MCQs (58 scorable MCQs)	3 focused written assignments	2 performance modules	

NOTES: The revised CPACE will be administered entirely by computer. The CPACE—Content Assessment is expected to be administered in a 3.5-hour test session. The CPACE—Performance Assessment is expected to be administered in a 4-hour test session. Each session represents total seat time, including the non-disclosure agreement (NDA), tutorial, and test.

Recommended Weighting for the CPACE - Content Assessment

The recommended component weighting for the CPACE—Content Assessment is 70% MCQ (Multiple Choice Questions), 30% CRI (Constructed Response Questions).

Recommended Weighting for the CPACE - Performance Assessment

The recommended weighting for the CPACE –Performance Assessment is 50% for each of the two performance modules.