



CODED CORRESPONDENCE

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| DATE: December 23, 2011 | NUMBER: 11-18 |
| TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing | FROM: Mary Vixie Sandy Executive Director Commission on Teacher Credentialing |
| SUBJECT: Basic Skills Requirement For Certification Purposes | |

Summary:

Changes in statute effective January 1, 2009, added options to meet the Basic Skills Requirement (BSR) for certification purposes including the availability of two examinations used by the California State University System (CSU) for admission and placement:

- 1) English and Mathematics sections of the CSU Early Assessment Program (EAP); and
- 2) CSU English Placement (EPT) Test and the Entry Level Mathematics (ELM) Placement Test.

Coded Correspondence 09-03, distributed on February 17, 2009, included information concerning the use of the EAP and the EPT/ELM examinations to satisfy the BSR for credentialing purposes. This correspondence updates the Commission's policy for the use of these examinations. Provisions for other issues addressed in [Coded Correspondence 09-03](#) (Recruitment of Fully Prepared Teachers, and Orientation, Guidance and Assistance for Permits and Waivers) continue to apply.

Key Provisions:

Coded Correspondence 09-03 stated that an individual was required to pass either both sections of the EAP OR both the EPT and ELM examinations to satisfy the BSR. After additional review, it has been determined that since the EAP and the EPT/ELM examinations are linked for CSU admission and placement, the Commission will accept a combination of scores from the EAP and the EPT/ELM examinations to meet the BSR as long as the individual passes a section of English and a section for Mathematics. For example, an individual may pass the Mathematics EAP and the EPT examination to satisfy the BSR. This change is effective immediately.

The CSU System accepts several examinations to meet the CSU admission and CSU English and math placement requirements; however, only passing scores on the two specific examinations (CSU EAP and EPT/ELM) may be used to satisfy the BSR.

Other options such as the California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) and the California Subject Examination for Teachers (CSET): Multiple Subject Plus Writing examination may not be combined to satisfy the BSR.

Score Reports

An individual must submit score reports when using the EAP or EPT/ELM examinations to satisfy the BSR. A chart on page 3 lists the passing scores.

Specific information concerning passing scores and score reports including how to obtain duplicate score reports is included on the [Commission's BSR Information Leaflet](#).

Important Date:

Change in acceptance of a combination of the EAP and EPT/ELM examinations - effective immediately.

Background:

Senate Bill (SB) 1186 (Chap. 518, Stats. 2008) was signed by the Governor on September 28, 2008. The bill had three provisions including the addition of four options to satisfy the BSR.

SB 1209 (Chap. 517, Stats. 2006) was signed by the Governor on September 28, 2006. One of the changes added five new options to satisfy the BSR, in addition to passage of the California Basic Skills Test (CBEST). Three of the options, passage of the ACT Plus Writing, the GRE (Graduate Record), and the SAT Reasoning examinations, required passing scores to be set by the Superintendent of Public Instruction by July 31, 2007. As announced in Coded Correspondence 07-11 in July 2007, passing scores were not set. SB 1186 deleted the requirement that the Superintendent establish passing scores for these examinations.

Source:

Education Code §§44225.7, 44252, 44252.5, 44262, and 44831

References:

Commission References

Basic Skills Requirement Information Leaflet:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl667.pdf>

Coded Correspondence 09-03: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/2009/0903.pdf>

Examination References

EAP, ELM, and EPT exams:

General Information and Ordering Score Reports for All Three Tests:

<http://www.ets.org/csu>

Contact Information:

Commission's Information Services Unit by telephone at 1-888-921-2682, Monday through Friday between 12:00 pm to 4:45 pm or by email at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.

Passing Scores for the Basic Skills Requirement

| CSU EAP Placement Tests (taken in Spring of 11th grade) | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Math | English |
| <i>Early Assessment Program (EAP)</i> | ‘College Ready’ or ‘Exempt’ | ‘College Ready’ or ‘Exempt’ |
| CSU Placement Tests | | |
| | Math | English |
| <i>Entry Level Math (ELM)</i> | 50 * | |
| <i>English Placement Test (EPT)</i> | | 151 |

* ELM tests taken prior to March 2003 required a minimum passing score of 550.