



State of California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
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BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENT

The California Education Code and Title 5 Regulations specify, in most cases, that applicants for a credential, certificate, or permit to serve in the public schools of California must verify basic skills proficiency before the credential, certificate, or permit will be issued. For Multiple and Single Subject Teaching Credential candidates, the basic skills requirement must be met prior to being assigned to daily responsibility for whole class instruction in student teaching or serving as an intern. However, institutions may require the basic skills requirement prior to program enrollment. Contact the college or university education department for more information.

The basic skills requirement may also be required as a condition of employment. Applicants should contact the school district where they are considering employment for more information.

OPTIONS FOR MEETING THE BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENT

Individuals may satisfy the basic skills requirement by **one** of the following methods:

1. Pass the CBEST

Individuals only need to pass The California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) once; CBEST passing scores remain valid indefinitely for all credential and employment purposes. To pass the CBEST, one must obtain a minimum scaled score of 41 in each of the three sections—reading, writing, and mathematics. However, a score as low as 37 on an individual section is acceptable if the total scaled score is at least 123. Any or all sections of the CBEST can be repeated as many times as necessary to obtain a passing score, but the full registration fee is charged for each test administration.

Additional information and instructions for test registration and administration processes may be obtained by contacting the CBEST program.

CBEST Program
Evaluation Systems group of Pearson
P.O. Box 340880
Sacramento, CA 95834-0880
(916) 928-4001
(TDD) 928-4191

Automated Information System (24 hours a day)
(800) 262-5080

Email: cbestmail@nesinc.com
Website: <http://www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/>
Please include your postal address in email messages.

2. Pass the CSET: Multiple Subjects Plus Writing Skills Examination

The California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET): Multiple Subjects examination has been modified, adding an assessment of basic writing skills. Passage of the CSET: Writing Skills examination (test #142) can be added to passage of the CSET: Multiple Subjects Examination (subtests #101, 102, & 103) to meet the basic skills requirement. Passing exam scores used to meet the basic skills requirement only remain valid indefinitely. See www.ctcexams.nesinc.com for more information.

3. Pass the CSU Early Assessment Program or the CSU Placement Examinations

Passing scores on the California State University (CSU) Early Assessment Program (EAP) (English and Mathematics sections) or the CSU Placement Examinations (English Placement Test [EPT] and Entry Level Mathematics [ELM]) are sufficient to meet the basic skills requirement. General information and instructions for ordering score reports for all three exams may be found at the Educational Testing Service (ETS) website at <http://www.ets.org/csu>. See [Coded Correspondence 09-03](#) for additional information. Passing exam scores remain valid indefinitely for credential purposes. See Table 1 for passing scores.

Table 1

CSU EAP Placement Tests (taken in Spring of 11 th 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 2002 required a minimum passing score of 550.*

4. Achieve Qualifying Score on the SAT or ACT

[Coded Correspondence 15-03](#) explains that an individual having earned a score of 500 or higher on the Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section* of the SAT exam combined with a score of 550 or higher on the SAT Mathematics exam is determined to have met the basic skills requirement. An individual having earned a score of 22 or higher on the ACT English exam combined with a score of 23 or higher on the ACT Mathematics exam is determined to have met the basic skills requirement. See Table 2.

Table 2

Examination	Math	English*
<i>College Board SAT</i>	550	500
<i>(ACT)</i>	23	22

* Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (previously Critical Reading/Verbal section of the College Board SAT Reasoning Test).

5. College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations

As noted in [Coded Correspondence 15-03](#), students who achieve a score of 3 or higher on the College Board AP English exam and AP Calculus or AP Statistics exam may also use these exam scores to meet the basic skills requirement. Table 3 shows how the scores may be applied.

Table 3

Examination	Math	English
<i>College Board Advanced Placement Examinations</i>	Score of 3 or above on one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP Calculus AB• AP Calculus BC• AP Statistics	Score of 3 or above on one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP English Language and Composition• AP English Literature and Composition

6. Pass a Basic Skills Examination from Another State

The Commission will accept basic skills examinations from other states. A photocopy of the score report or letter from the testing agency verifying passage of the examination must be submitted with the application packet. There is no recency requirement for the date the examination was passed. See the Out-of-State Basic Skills Examinations chart at the end of this leaflet for a listing of acceptable examinations from other states.

Obtaining Duplicate Score Reports

Individuals filing applications directly to the Commission using the CSU, SAT/ACT, or AP exams to meet the basic skills requirement must submit **original** passing score reports with their application packet. **Scores posted only on high school transcripts are not acceptable.** Commission-approved program sponsors or local employing agencies may submit a photocopy of the score report as long as the program sponsor or agency has verified it actually received from the educator an original score report, not a scanned or PDF copy. Duplicate score reports may be obtained from the testing agencies as shown below.

CSU Placement Tests (EAP, ELM, EPT)

For contact information on obtaining score results, see the ETS website at https://www.ets.org/csu/about/?WT.ac=csu_38419_scores_results.

SAT/AP/ACT

The testing agencies maintain files of test scores taken within the last few years online. Check the testing agency's website for details if you completed one of these examinations recently. These agencies also maintain an archive of test results that date back for decades. For a fee, you can request a copy of your archived test scores for each of these examinations.

Archived SAT scores may be requested by mail or by telephone. Check the College Board website for the Archived Score Report Order Form or phone ordering directions and current duplicate report fees using this link: <https://sat.collegeboard.org/scores/send-old-sat-scores>

Information from the College Board on obtaining archived AP exam scores and the Archived AP Scores Request Form may be found using this link: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/help#faq56>

Information on obtaining archived ACT scores online, by phone, or by mail may be found using this link: http://testprep.about.com/od/actfaq/ht/Old_ACT_Scores.htm

COMBINING EXAMINATION SCORES

Generally, as described in [Coded Correspondence 09-03](#), there is no mixing and matching of different sections of examinations that satisfy the BSR. For example, an individual cannot combine passage of the mathematics section of the EAP, with the reading section of the CBEST, and the Writing section of the CSET: Multiple Subjects Plus Writing examination.

However, since the EAP and EPT/ELM examinations are linked for CSU admission and placement, the Commission will accept a combination of scores from the EAP and 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 combine passage of the Mathematics EAP and the CSU Placement Examination in English (EPT) to satisfy the BSR. See [Coded Correspondence 11-18](#).

EXEMPTIONS

Applicants for the following documents are exempt from the basic skills requirement:

1. Renewal, reissuance, or upgrading of existing non-emergency credentials, certificates, or permits unless it is specifically indicated as a renewal requirement on the document
2. An additional credential, certificate, or permit to teach when the applicant holds a non-emergency California teaching credential which required a bachelor's degree
3. Credentials issued solely for teaching adults in apprenticeship programs
4. Designated Subjects Vocational Education, Career Technical Education, or Special Subjects Teaching Credentials for which a bachelor's degree is not required
5. Certificates of Clearance
6. Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificates
7. Child Development Permits
8. Visiting Faculty Permits
9. Eminence Credentials
10. Health Services Credentials, unless the document also authorizes teaching
11. Candidates who are prelingually deaf. This includes all credential types that have basic skills as a requirement for those serving in state special schools or in special classes for pupils with hearing impairments. Prelingually deaf individuals who choose this option will be required to complete a job-related assessment. See the [Guide for Verifying the Proficiency of Prelingually Deaf Credential Candidates](#) found on the Commission's website for complete details.

Applicants for the following documents may serve on a credential for one year pending the completion of the basic skills requirement:

- Exchange Credentials
- One-Year Nonrenewable (OYNR) Credentials (some services and teaching credentials may be issued to applicants who have completed their professional training outside of California and who have met all of the requirements for an initial California credential except for completion of the basic skills requirement). Applicants for the OYNR credential must submit a completed application packet through a California school district or county office of education that includes written verification that they have offered employment to the credential applicant, **and** the applicant has passed a basic skills test developed by the district or county. (The district basic skills test does not replace the basic skills requirement.)

- Out-of-state prepared holders of the preliminary multiple subject, single subject, and education specialist credentials must complete the basic skills requirement during the first year of certification

NOTE: Any examination information provided in this leaflet is subject to change. Please see the testing agency's website for the most current information.

Reference: California Education Code, Section 44252 and 44830

Out-of-State Basic Skills Exams Guide July 2018

This chart is only a guide and is subject to change. Dashes (-----) in the *exam* column indicate that the state testing information is inconclusive. If an educator submits a basic skills examination from one of these states, the educator must include information from the state verifying that the examination meets the basic skills requirement.

State	Exam	Exam Name	Exam Info Web Site	State Web Site
Alabama	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment (since October 1, 2016) AECAP-ACT WorkKeys System (last administration July 8, 2017) Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program (AECTP: Basic Skills Test) (Formerly APTTP) 	https://www.alsde.edu/sec/ea/Pages/bsa-all.aspx?navtext=Basic Skills Assessment	www.alsde.edu/sec/tc/pages/home.aspx
Alaska	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) West-B 	www.ets.org www.cbest.nesinc.com www.west.nesinc.com education.alaska.gov/teachercertification/praxis.html	www.eed.state.ak.us/
Arizona	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Skills Exam (if passed between January 1984 and January 1999) 	Not applicable	www.azed.gov/
Arkansas	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org/praxis/ar/requirements www.ets.org	www.arkansased.org/



Colorado	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.cde.state.co.us/
Connecticut	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org/praxis/ct/requirements www.ets.org	www.sde.ct.gov/sde/site/default.asp
Delaware	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) 	www.ets.org www.cbest.nesinc.com deeds.doe.k12.de.us/certificate/deeds_testing.aspx	www.doe.k12.de.us/
District of Columbia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/16)</i> 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/dc/requirements/	osse.dc.gov/
Florida	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE)- <i>(Beginning July 1, 2002)</i> General Knowledge Test (GK) CLAST <i>(1982-June 30, 2002); as of July 1, 2014, Florida will not recognize CLAST results to obtain an initial credential</i> 	www.fl.nesinc.com/tests.asp	www.fldoe.org/EdCert/
Georgia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) 200, 201, 202 Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 3/5/2007)</i> 	www.gapsc.com/EducatorPreparation/Assessment/BasicSkillsInfo.aspx www.gapsc.com/EducatorPreparation/Assessment/Testing.aspx www.ets.org	public.doe.k12.ga.us www.gapsc.com/



Guam	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org/praxis/gu/requirements gcec.guam.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Certification-Table-for-All-Educators.pdf	sites.google.com/a/gdoe.net/gdoe/
Hawaii	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 6/30/14)</i> 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/hi/requirements	www.htsb.org/ (Hawaii Teacher Standards Board) doe.k12.hi.us/index.html
Idaho	-----	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher_certification/
Illinois	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illinois Certification Testing System (ILTS): Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) - four subtests beginning 9/12/2012 ICTS – Basic Skills Test (#096 <i>if all sections passed before 8/31/2010; #300 if passed between 9/11/2010 and 9/11/2012</i>) 	http://www.il.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IL400_TestPage.html	www.isbe.net/licensure/html/testing.htm www.isbe.net/default.htm
Indiana	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Academic Skills Assessment (CASA) <i>(beginning Summer 2013)</i> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org www.in.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html www.in.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IN001_TestPage.html	www.doe.in.gov/
Iowa	-----	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.educateiowa.gov// www.iowa.gov/boee



Kansas	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (<i>if passed between 5/1/1986 to 7/1/2002</i>) 	Not applicable	www.ksde.org/
Kentucky	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org	education.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx www.epsb.ky.gov/
Louisiana	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment (beginning 09/01/2014) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (<i>up to 8/31/2014 - scores differ depending on year passed</i>) 	www.ets.org	www.doe.state.la.us/
Maine	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (<i>if passed prior to 8/31/2014</i>) 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements/ www.ets.org/praxis/me	www.maine.gov/doe/
Maryland	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment (beginning 09/01/2014)* Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (<i>if passed prior to 8/31/2014</i>) <p>* Candidates may combine passing scores on individual sections of the Praxis-Core and Praxis-I PPST exams to meet Maryland's basic skills requirement</p>	www.ets.org	www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/certification/certification_branch/testing
Massachusetts	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.doe.mass.edu/ www.mass.edu/home.asp



Michigan	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC): Professional Readiness Exam (PRE)-last administered 09/23/2017 MTTC: Basic Skills Test 	http://www.mttc.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/MI096_TestPage.html http://www.mttc.nesinc.com/MI17_requirements.asp	www.michigan.gov/mde
Minnesota	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NES Essential Academic Skills (NOTE: 2 versions of test, Multi-state and Minnesota. Both accepted but have different passing scores) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment (beginning 9/1/2014) MTLE: Basic Skills (beginning 9/1/2010; discontinued 6/08/2016) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (if passed prior to 9/1/2014) 	www.ets.org http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html	https://education.mn.gov/ME/Lic/lic/index.htm
Mississippi	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/ms/requirements www.mde.k12.ms.us/docs/educator-licensure/new-praxis-test--core-academic-skills-for-educators-(core).pdf?sfvrsn=0	www.mde.k12.ms.us/
Missouri	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	dese.mo.gov/
Montana	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	opi.mt.gov/



Nebraska	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) 	www.ets.org www.education.ne.gov/tcert/pdfs/Test.pdf www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/	www.education.ne.gov/TCE/RT/ www.education.ne.gov/index.html
Nevada	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) 	www.ets.org www.cbest.nesinc.com www.ets.org/praxis/nv/requirements	www.doe.nv.gov/
New Hampshire	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/nh/requirements	www.education.nh.gov/ www.education.nh.gov/certification/
New Jersey	yes	Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment	http://www.ets.org/praxis/nj/requirements	http://www.nj.gov/education/educators/license/praxis/
New Mexico	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential Academic Skills (001, 002, 003) New Mexico Assessment of Teacher Basic Skills 	www.nmta.nesinc.com/	www.ped.state.nm.us www.ped.state.nm.us/licensure/index.html
New York	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	usny.nysed.gov/teachers/
North Carolina	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/14)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org/praxis/nc/requirements www.ets.org	www.ncpublicschools.org/licensure/ stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/
North Dakota	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org	www.nd.gov/espb/ www.nd.gov/espb/licensure/testing.html



Ohio	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEPrimary.aspx?page=2&TopicRelationID=513
Oklahoma	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oklahoma General Education Test (OGET) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ok.gov/octp/index.html www.ceoe.nesinc.com/ www.ets.org	www.ok.gov/sde/home/defaultie.html www.ok.gov/octp/
Oregon	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NES Essential Academic Skills Test West-B California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.west.nesinc.com www.cbest.nesinc.com/ www.ets.org www.orela.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/NT001_TestPage.html www.ets.org/praxis/or/requirements	www.oregon.gov/tspc/Pages/index.aspx
Pennsylvania	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) (<i>beginning 4/2/2012</i>) The Core Academic Skills for Educators (CORE) modules in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (<i>if passed from 09/01/2000 to 4/2/2012</i>) Praxis: General Knowledge (GK) and Communication Skills (<i>if passed prior to 09/01/2000</i>) 	www.pa.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_WhatTestsDoINeedToTake.html www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/testing_requirements/8638 http://www.ets.org/praxis/pa/requirements	www.pde.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pennsylvania_department_of_education/7237



Rhode Island	-----	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.ride.ri.gov/ www.ride.ri.gov/educatorquality/certification/default.aspx
South Carolina	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/2014)</i> 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/sc/requirements	ed.sc.gov/
South Dakota	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	doe.sd.gov/
Tennessee	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/tn/requirements/	www.state.tn.us/education/lic/
Texas	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THEA/TASP (Texas Higher Education Assessment/Texas Academic Skills Program) TSI Assessment 	http://www.thea.nesinc.com/	www.tea.state.tx.us/portals.aspx?id=2147484909
Utah	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.schools.utah.gov/cert/
Vermont	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/2014)</i> 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/vt/requirements	education.vermont.gov/ education.vermont.gov/licensing



Virginia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment (beginning 1/1/2014) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (if passed prior to 8/31/2014) 	www.ets.org www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/educator_preparation/college_programs/entry_asessment.pdf www.ets.org/praxis/va/requirements	www.virginia.gov/education
Washington	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washington Educator Skills Test – Basic (West-B) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.west.nesinc.com/ www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/ www.ets.org	www.teachwashington.org/ www.pesb.wa.gov/ www.k12.wa.us/
West Virginia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/wv/requirements	wvde.state.wv.us/certification/ wvde.state.wv.us/
Wisconsin	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org tepd.dpi.wi.gov/licensing/wisconsin-educator-testing-requirements	dpi.wi.gov/tepd/index.html
Wyoming	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	ptsb.state.wy.us/

Resources

Credential Leaflets:

Basic Skills Requirement (BSR) CL-667: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl667.pdf>

Examinations for Teacher Certification CL-818: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl818.pdf>



Coded Correspondence:

15-03 - Options for Meeting the Basic Skills Requirement

09-03 - Implementation of Senate Bill 1186 Concerning the Basic Skills Requirement

07-18 - Changes to the Basic Skills Requirement

