



To: State Board of Education
From: Michael Rowland
Cc'ed: Karli Saracini, Joan Luneau, Melissa Jacks
Date: July 2021
Re: Assessment for Vocal Music (K-12) Licensure

Vocal Music (K-12) Assessment

Current Vocal Music (K-12) Licensure Assessment:	Proposed Vocal Music (K-12) Licensure Assessment:
None – new vocal music test	Praxis® Music: Vocal and General Knowledge (5116) Recommended Cut Score: 147 (-1 SEM)
	Effective September 1, 2021

Rationale

Vocal Music (K-12) is a first-time licensure area as well as an add-on licensure area. The current Music (K-12) licensure test is the Praxis® Music: Content Knowledge (5113) and is for both Instrumental and Vocal Music licenses. The new Praxis® Music: Vocal and General Knowledge (5116) would be for vocal music teachers only.

The Praxis® Music: Vocal and General Knowledge (5116) Study Companion describes the purpose and structure of the 5116. Examinees taking this test will typically have completed, or will have nearly completed, an undergraduate music education program including student teaching. The test content assesses key indicators of the beginning educator's musical knowledge and professional readiness for K–12 music instruction required for individuals teaching courses to students in vocal music or general music settings.

The content of the test is designed and developed through work with practicing vocal and general music teachers and teacher educators to reflect the music knowledge teachers need to teach vocal and general music, and on teacher preparation standards and relevant materials created by the National Association for the Schools of Music (NASM), the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the College Music Society (CMS), the Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE), and the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium.

The 125 minute assessment contains 125 selected-response questions covering five content areas: Music History and Literature (approximately 16 questions, 13%), Music Theory and Composition (approximately 18 questions, 14%), Music Performance (approximately 25 questions, 20%), Music Pedagogy and Instructional Practices (approximately 49 questions, 40%), and Professional Issues and Music Technology (approximately 17 questions, 13%).

In February 2021, Educational Testing Service conducted a virtual multistate standard setting study. One Arkansas music educator participated in the study. As a result, a study value of 153 was determined, and 147 is the score with -1 standard error of measurement (SEM). In May 2021, ETS conducted a virtual test review for Arkansas music preparation programs.

For the Vocal Music (K-12) licensure assessment, the Department recommends adopting the Praxis® Music: Vocal and General Knowledge (5116) with a cut score of 147, effective September 1, 2021.