

SBE – July 13, 2023

Updated Secondary Science and K-12 School Professional Licensure Tests and Cut Scores

(7 total)

Description: Educational Testing Service (ETS) has updated four 7-12 science Praxis® tests and three K-12 school professionals tests currently used by DESE for various educator licenses. The updated Praxis® tests are for Life Science/Biology (7-12), Chemistry (7-12), Earth Science (7-12), Physics (7-12), Guidance and Counseling (K-12), Library Media Specialist (K-12), and School Psychology Specialist (K-12).

Proposal: DESE recommends adopting these seven (7) tests and passing scores replacing the current tests effective September 1, 2023.

Praxis® Biology (5236) – passing score of 142

Praxis® Chemistry (5246) – passing score of 133

Praxis® Earth and Space Sciences (5572) – passing score of 141

Praxis® Physics (5266) – passing score of 133

Praxis® School Counselor (5422) – passing score of 146

Praxis® School Librarian (5312) (fm. Library Media Specialist) – passing score of 141

Praxis® School Psychologist (5403) – passing score of 142

DESE recommendation approved by PLSB on Friday, June 2, 2023

Praxis® Biology (5236) – an update of the 5235 for Life Science/Biology (7-12), last updated 9/1/2013 -- \$130

The current test for Life Science/Biology (7-12) is Praxis® Biology: Content Knowledge (5235). An updated Praxis® Biology (5236) is available from ETS replacing the 5235.

For the Life Science/Biology (7-12) licensure assessment, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® Biology: Content Knowledge (5235) with the Praxis® Biology: Content Knowledge (5236) and a passing score of 142 (ETS Technical Report), effective September 1, 2023.

150 selected-response questions; 2.5 hours; zero Arkansas panelists participated in the multistate standard setting study.

Praxis® Chemistry (5246) – an update of the 5245 for Chemistry (7-12), last updated 9/1/2015 -- \$130

The current licensure test for Chemistry (7-12) is the Praxis® Chemistry Content Knowledge (5245). An updated Praxis® Chemistry (5246) is available from ETS replacing the 5245.

For the Chemistry (7-12) license, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® Chemistry: Content Knowledge (5245) with the Praxis® Chemistry (5246) and a passing score of 133 (ETS Technical Report) effective September 1, 2023.

125 selected-response questions; 2.5 hours; 1 Arkansas panelist participated in the multistate standard setting study.

Praxis® Earth and Space Sciences (5572) – an update of the 5571 for Earth Science (7-12) Endorsement, last updated 1/1/2016 -- \$130

The current licensure test for the Earth Science (7-12) endorsement is the Praxis® Earth and Space Sciences: Content Knowledge (5571). An updated Praxis® Earth and Space Sciences (5572) is available from ETS replacing the 5571.

For the Earth Science (7-12) endorsement, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® Earth and Space Sciences: Content Knowledge (5571) with the Praxis® Earth and Space Sciences (5572) and a passing score of 141 (ETS Technical Report) effective September 1, 2023.

125 selected-response questions; 2.5 hours; 2 Arkansas panelists participated in the multistate standard setting study.

Praxis® Physics (5266) – an update of the 5265 for Physics (7-12), last updated 2/1/2014 -- \$130

The current licensure test for Physics (7-12) licensure is the Praxis® Physics: Content Knowledge (5265). An updated Praxis® Physics (5266) is available from ETS replacing the 5265.

For Physics (7-12) licensure, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® Physics: Content Knowledge (5265) with the Praxis® Physics (5266) and a passing score of 133 (ETS Technical Report) effective September 1, 2023.

125 selected-response questions; 2.5 hours; zero Arkansas panelists participated in the multistate standard setting study.

Praxis® School Counselor (5422) – an update of the Professional School Counselor 5421, Guidance & Counseling (K-12), last updated 9/1/2012 -- \$130

The current licensure test for Guidance and Counseling (K-12) is the Praxis® Professional School Counselor (5421). An updated Praxis® School Counselor (5422) is available from ETS replacing the 5421.

For Guidance and Counseling (K-12) licensure, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® Professional School Counselor (5421) with the Praxis® School Counselor (5422) and a passing score of 146 (ETS Technical Report) effective September 1, 2023.

120 selected-response questions; 2 hours; 2 Arkansas panelists participated in the multistate standard setting study.

Praxis® School Librarian (5312) – an update of the Library Media Specialist 5311, Library Media Specialist (K-12), last updated 9/1/2012 -- \$130

The current licensure test for Library Media Specialist (K-12) is the Praxis® Library Media Specialist (5311). An updated Praxis® School Librarian (5312) is available from ETS replacing the 5311.

For Library Media Specialist (K-12) licensure, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® Library Media Specialist (5311) with the Praxis® School Librarian (5312) and a passing score of 141 (ETS Technical Report) effective September 1, 2023.

120 selected-response questions; 2 hours; zero Arkansas panelists participated in the multistate standard setting study.

Praxis® School Psychologist (5403) – an update of the 5402, School Psychology Specialist (K-12), last updated 9/1/2014 -- \$130

The current licensure test for School Psychology Specialist (K-12) is the Praxis® School Psychologist (5402). An updated Praxis® School Psychologist (5403) is available from ETS replacing the 5402.

For School Psychology Specialist (K-12) licensure, DESE recommends replacing the current Praxis® School Psychologist (5402) with the Praxis® School Psychologist (5403) and a passing score of 142 (ETS Technical Report) effective September 1, 2023.

125 selected-response questions; 2 hours 5 minutes; 1 Arkansas panelist participated in the multistate standard setting study.

According to ETS, each of the four (4) science tests was designed and developed through work with practicing science teachers, teacher educators, and higher education science specialists to reflect the science knowledge teachers need to teach these science curriculums and to reflect state and national standards¹.

Each of the three (3) school professional tests was designed and developed through work with practicing school professionals and preparation program faculty to reflect knowledge and skills of national standards². These standards and competencies provide an overview of the mindsets and behaviors school counselors, librarians, and psychologist must possess to meet the rigorous demands of these professions and the needs of students in grades pre-K through 12.

¹ National Science Teaching Association Preparation Standards and Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs) and Science and Engineering Practices (SEPs) established by the National Research Council in A Framework for K-12 Science Education and included in the Next Generation Science Standards

² ASCA School Counselor Professional Standards & Competencies; ALA/AASL/CAEP National School Librarian Standards (2019) and the AASL National School Library Standards (2018); and the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services (2020)