



**DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY
& SECONDARY EDUCATION**

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To: State Board of Education
From: Michael Rowland
Cc'ed: Karli Saracini, Joan Luneau, Melissa Jacks, David Baca
Date: June 2020
Re: Content Area Performance Assessment

Content Area Performance Assessment

	Proposed Content Area Performance Assessment:
New Assessment for Approval	Praxis® Performance Assessment for Teachers (PPAT) Recommended Cut Score: 38
	Effective Immediately

Rationale

In May 2020, Educator Licensure rules were revised to include an option for first-time licensure candidates to show proficiency in teaching in a content area if they score within -2 Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) based on the national standard or an approved score by the State Board on the content area assessment. The option includes the need for a DESE approved micro-credential or content area performance assessment.

According to a technical report provided by Educational Testing Service, the PPAT is a multiple-task assessment that requires candidates to submit written responses and supporting instructional materials and student work (i.e., artifacts). The last task, Task 4, also includes submission of a video of the candidate's teaching.

This evidence-centered assessment features four tasks and offers performance indicators of a test takers' effectiveness in the classroom. By embedding teaching and clinical experiences with both summative and formative components, the PPAT assessment offers a comprehensive picture of test takers' potential for classroom success

The PPAT:

- **Addresses All Content Areas and Grade Levels** — The PPAT assessment was designed specifically to provide the flexibility needed to accommodate all content areas and grade levels. Through the nature of the tasks and prompts, test takers must demonstrate their knowledge in their chosen subject matter as well as pedagogy.
- **Aligns to National Standards** — The PPAT tasks are aligned with the InTASC Model Core Teaching Standards.
- **Offers Formative Feedback** — Test takers benefit from support every step of the way during the assessment experience. This assessment is designed to provide the test taker with feedback from both their mentor teachers and supervisors that helps to refine the test taker's teaching.
- **Includes a Professional Growth Plan** — Test takers work with their mentor teachers and supervisors to develop a professional growth plan that shows their strengths and areas for improvement to further improve their teaching practice.
- **Provides ongoing Feedback** — Test takers gain understanding of their growth throughout the assessment experience based on quick turnaround scoring time as tasks are submitted.
- **Offers the ability to Resubmit** — Test takers who do not meet the qualifying score can resubmit some or all of their summative tasks.

Information is available on the [PPAT® Assessment Website](#)

To provide an option for applicable candidates to show proficiency in teaching in a content area, the Division recommends adopting the Praxis® Performance Assessment for Teachers (PPAT) with a cut score of 38 as a content area performance assessment.