

NORTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy Manual

Item	Description
Policy Title	Licensing Testing Requirements
Policy Category	Licensure (LICN)
Policy ID	LICN-003
Policy Date	07/09/2020
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Statutory Reference	GS 270.15

I. Definitions

Professional Educator or Educator – An administrator, teacher, or student services personnel

Teacher – An individual whose major responsibility is to either teach or directly supervise teaching, as classified by the North Carolina State Board of Education (NCSBE).

Student Services Personnel – An individual providing specialized assistance to students, teachers, administrators, or the education program in general, as classified by the NCSBE. Student services personnel include, but are not limited to, individuals employed in school counseling, school social work, school psychology, audiology, speech-language pathology, and media coordination.

Administrator – An administrator or supervisor who serves in general and program administrator roles, as classified by the NCSBE. Administrators include, but are not be limited to, superintendents, assistant or associate superintendents, principals, assistant principals, or curriculum-instructional specialists.

II. Testing Requirements for a North Carolina License

Individuals seeking a North Carolina professional educator’s license must meet the testing requirements established by the State Board of Education. The Initial Professional License may be converted to a clear

Continuing Professional License provided the State Board of Education-required exam is taken at least

once during the first year of employment, and passed before or during the second year of employment. Current testing requirements are at the end of this section.

III. Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Exemption for edTPA and PPAT

Beginning on July 1, 2018, a candidate will be exempt from the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) assessment requirement if the candidate can produce evidence of a passing score on a nationally scored edTPA or PPAT assessment.

North Carolina State Board of Education Approved Testing Requirements

Four digit numbers in the “Required Tests” column indicate the ETS PRAXIS examination required for licensure. Required scores are reported in the final column. Scores for licensure areas with more than one required or available tests are reported separately, by test.

AREA OF LICENSURE	CODE	REQUIRED TESTS	REQUIRED SCORE
Preschool/Elementary			
Birth through Kindergarten	14	none	none
Elementary (K-6)	025	Pearson Test 090 - Foundations of Reading	229
		Pearson Test 203 - Mathematics Subtest	227
		OR Praxis Test 7803: CKT Math Subtest (effective until September 2020)	150
		OR Praxis Test 7813: CKT Math Subtest (effective beginning September 2019)	150
Middle Grades (6-9)			
Language Arts	78180	5047	164
Mathematics	78200	5169	165
Science	78300	5440 (effective until August 2021)	150

		OR 5442 (effective beginning September 2020)	152
Social Studies	78400	5089	149
Secondary (9-12)			

* Beginning on July 1, 2018, a candidate will be exempt from the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) assessment (test 5624) requirement if the candidate can produce evidence of a passing score on a nationally scored edTPA or PPAT assessment.

Anthropology	433	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
Biology	310	5235 & 5624	5235 - 150 5624 - 157
Chemistry	330	5245 & 5624	5245 - 152 5624 - 157
Earth Science	302	5571	136
Economics	431	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
English	100	5038 & 5624	5038 - 167 5624 - 157
French	510	5174 or ACTFL OPI & WPT	5174 - 162 ACTFL - Advanced Low
Geography	410	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
German	530	5183 or ACTFL OPI & WPT	5183 - 163 ACTFL - Advanced Low
History	420	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
Latin	590	5601	146
Mathematics	200	5161 & 5624	5161 - 160 5624 - 157
Physics	320	5265	133
Political Science	405	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
Russian	580	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Science (comprehensive)	300	5435 & 5624	5435 - 151 5624 - 157

			5027 - 157
Social Studies (comprehensive)	400	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
Sociology	432	5081 & 5624	5081 - 158 5624 - 157
Spanish	520	5195 or ACTFL OPI & WPT	5195 - 168 ACTFL - Advanced Low
Special Subject Areas (K-12)			
American Sign Language (ASL)	597	NTID Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI)	Advanced
Arabic	582	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Art	810	5135	161
Chinese	551	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
English as a Second Language	110	5362	155
French	511	5174 or ACTFL OPI & WPT	5174 - 162 ACTFL - Advanced Low

German	531	5183 or ACTFL OPI & WPT	5183 - 163 ACTFL - Advanced Low
Greek, Modern	587	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Health and Physical Education	095	5857	160
Health Specialist	098	5551	156
Hebrew	588	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Hindi	589	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Italian	561	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Japanese	541	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Korean	592	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Latin	593	5601	146
Music	800	5114	162
	090	5091	152

Physical Education			
Portuguese	594	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Reading (bachelor's level)	190	5204 (effective until September 2020)	159
		OR 5206 (effective beginning September 2019)	156
Reading (graduate level)	190	5301 (effective until August 2021)	164
		OR 5302 (effective beginning September 2020)	165
Russian	581	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Spanish	521	5195 or ACTFL OPI & WPT	5195 - 168 ACTFL - Advanced Low
Speech Communication	109	5221	143
Swahili	595	ACTFL OPI & WPT (if available)	Advanced Low
Turkish	596	ACTFL OPI & WPT	Advanced Low
Other Foreign Language****	585	ACTFL OPI & WPT (if available)	Advanced Low
Safety and Driver Education		NCDPI Safety and Traffic Education Program Pass all course assessments and the program exam, Safety and Traffic Education Program Test, with a score of 80%	Score 80% on all assessments for the NCDPI Safety and Traffic Education Program.
Exceptional Children (K-12)			
Academically or Intellectually Gifted	88087	none**	none**
Special Education: Adapted Curriculum	88092	5545 & 5511	5545 - 158 5511 - 148
		Core Knowledge Test - Praxis II 5543	158
		Pearson Test 090 -	

Special Education: General Curriculum	88091	Foundations of Reading	229
		Pearson Test 203 - Mathematics Subtest	227
		OR	
		Praxis Test 7803: CKT Math Subtest (effective until September 2020)	150
		OR	
		Praxis Test 7813: CKT Math Subtest (effective beginning September 2019)	150

Behaviorally/Emotionally Disabled	88085	5372 & 5511	5372 - 154 5511 - 148
Cross Categorical	88001	5354 & 5511	5354 - 151 5511 - 148
Mentally Disabled	88081	5322 & 5511	5322 - 156 5511 - 148
Severely Profoundly Mentally Disabled	88002	5322 & 5511	5322 - 156 5511 - 148
Learning Disabled	88086	5383 & 5511	5383 - 151 5511 - 148
Visually Impaired	88083	5282	163
Career-Technical Education (6-12)***			
Family & Consumer Sciences	710	5122	153
Marketing Education	730	5561	169
Technology Education	820	5051	159
Business Education	760	5101	154
Student Services Personnel			
School Counselor	005	5421	156
School Psychologist	026	5402	147
Media Coordinator	076	5311	148
	88003	5342	170

Audiologist		(effective until August 2021) OR 5343 (effective beginning September 2020)	162
Speech-Language Pathologist	88082	NCBOESLPA Requirements	NCBOESLPA Requirements
Administrative/Supervisory			
Curriculum-Instructional Specialist	113	5412	146
Media Supervisor	078	5412	146
Exceptional Children Program Administrator	88099	5412	146

*This table only includes licensure areas with NCSBE-required licensure examinations. Content areas without required licensure examinations (e.g. Cherokee-583, Ancient Greek-586, and Theatre Arts-108) are not listed.

** Although no test is required for the Academically Gifted (AIG) license if earned through a recognized Educator Preparation Program, prospective AIG teachers may add the area by passing the Praxis Gifted Education test 5358 with a minimum qualifying score of 157.

***For more information regarding Career and Technical Education licensure, please refer to the CTE Licensure Policy and Procedures Manual.

**** Any other World Language not listed in this policy for which there is an ACTFL OPI.

edTPA and PPAT Assessments **

Year	Required for Licensure Y/N	Passing Scores				Highly Qualified Score			
		edTPA 13 rubrics	edTPA 15 rubrics	edTPA 18 rubrics	PPAT	edTPA 13 rubrics	edTPA 15 rubrics	edTPA 18 rubrics	PPAT
2017-18	N	32	38	45	38	42	48	57	44
2018-19	N	32	38	45	38	42	48	57	44
2019-20	Y	32	38	45	38	42	48	57	44

2020-21	Y	34*	40*	48*	40*	42	48	57	44
2021-22	Y	34*	40*	48*	40*	42	48	57	44

* These scores are estimates until North Carolina data collected over 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 can be analyzed to determine North Carolina-specific cut scores beginning in 2020-2021.

**The consequential date for edTPA and PPAT begins on September 1, 2019.

State Reference

GS 115C-270.15

Description

[Examination requirements for initial professional licenses](#)