



# Teacher Certification

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## Instructions: Core Academic Skills Test for Nebraska Certification

Nebraska Department of Education requires passing scores on the Praxis Core Academic Skills Test. The applicant must demonstrate their basic skills competency as determined by the State Board of Education.

The test chosen to meet this requirement is the Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (Reading, Writing and Mathematics) formerly Praxis I. This test is for admission into an Education Preparation Program; applicants that apply for their first regular Nebraska Teaching or Administrative Certificate are required to take a computer-based test administered by ETS-Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey.

### Exemptions

An applicant shall be exempt from this requirement if:

1. The applicant has two or more consecutive years of Teaching experience (contract teaching) **OR**
2. The applicant has Administrative experience in an approved or accredited school while holding a certificate issued by that state on the basis of successful completion of an approved educator certification program in any state, **OR**
3. The candidate has current credential from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards.

If you wish to take all three computer-delivered Core exams (5712, 5722, 5732) at the same time, select Core Academic Skills for Educators: Combined Test (5751) when registering. Scores will be reported by individual test (5712, 5722, 5732). [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis).

### Minimum Acceptable Scores Praxis I-Core

Core	Passing Score	Test #
Reading	156	5712
Writing	162	5722
Math	150	5732

### Minimum Acceptable Scores- Core Academic Skills for Educators Required beginning August 1, 2020

Core	Passing Score	Test #
Reading	156	5713
Writing	162	5723
Math	150	5733

### **PRAXIS Subject Assessment (Content Test) for Endorsements: Nebraska Certificate**

Any person who applies for a regular Teaching, or Administrative endorsement to be added to a Nebraska Certificate or Permit must meet passing scores requirements for the approved content test that has been established by the Department.

The content test is a Praxis Subject Assessment or School Leadership series test published by the Educational Testing Service of Princeton, New Jersey. Accepted tests and passing scores for the Nebraska Department of Education can be found at:

[https://www.education.ne.gov/tcert/pdfs/ContentTestScores%20\(3\).pdf](https://www.education.ne.gov/tcert/pdfs/ContentTestScores%20(3).pdf)



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**Only those tests on the list are accepted. No Exceptions.** A regular endorsement is not added until a passing score has been sent by the Educational Testing Service to the Department.

A Nebraska Certificate cannot be received by a first-time applicant unless the person has completed one regular endorsement and passed the content test required by Nebraska.

Nebraska certificate holders can add additional endorsements to their certificates once they complete the academic program and pass the content test.

## Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Testing in Nebraska

Effective September 1, 2015, individuals must provide evidence they have taken the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment Content Test and passed at the NE-required score before a new endorsement(s) can be placed on a Nebraska Teaching Certificate. Nebraska uses Praxis Subject Assessments/Content Tests from Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, NJ.

How do I know which Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test to take to meet Nebraska?

The list of required Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Tests is available on the NDE website at: [https://www.education.ne.gov/tcert/pdfs/ContentTestScores%20\(3\).pdf](https://www.education.ne.gov/tcert/pdfs/ContentTestScores%20(3).pdf)

An applicant for a Nebraska Teaching or Administrative Certificate will have to take and pass the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test for each listed endorsement area in order to have the endorsement(s) placed on their NE Teaching Certificate. NOTE: Those with both Elementary Education and Special Education endorsements are required to take and pass both the appropriate Elementary Education content test and the appropriate Special Education content test.

When should I take the Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test?

Individuals should consult with their preparation institution to determine the institution's requirements regarding Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Testing. Check the Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test testing schedule on the ETS Praxis website to determine testing centers and dates when tests are available. ([https://www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers\\_dates](https://www.ets.org/praxis/register/centers_dates))

## Do I need to pass the Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test to complete my Teacher Education preparation program?

Check with your institution teacher preparation program regarding this. The Nebraska Department of Education requires a passing score on the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test to have an endorsement placed on a regular Nebraska teaching or administrative certificate.

Is every teacher required to take and pass a Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test?

Those teachers certified in Nebraska prior to September 1, 2015 are not required to take and pass a Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test unless they are adding an endorsement or adding an additional grade level to their current regular NE Teaching Certificate.

**Example 1:** A currently-certified NE principal with the Principal 7-12 endorsement who did not ever take a Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test, but wants to add the Principal K-6 level to their regular certificate endorsements on or after September 1, 2015 must take and pass the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test to add the Principal K-6 endorsement to their regular current certificate.



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**Example 2:** A currently-certified NE teacher with a Chemistry 7-12 teaching endorsement who wants to add a Science 7-12 field endorsement to their regular certificate on or after September 1, 2015 must take and pass the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment/ Content Test to add the Science 7-12 endorsement to their regular current certificate. Those applying for a NE Teaching or Administrative Certificate for the first time, on or after Revised 10-2020.

September 1, 2015 must provide evidence they have taken and passed the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test. Not all endorsements require a content test. See

<http://www.ets.org/praxis/prepare/materials>

## **How are passing scores determined?**

The initial designation of passing scores was determined by panels of Nebraska educators. As ETS updates Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Tests, Multi-State Standard Setting (MSSS) panels are called to establish passing scores, which Nebraska may elect to adopt. Score data will be collected by NDE and reviewed periodically.

## **What if I do not pass the required Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test?**

Those who do not obtain the NE required score on the Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test have the option of retaking the test multiple times. (See Praxis Test Retake policies on the ETS website: [www.ets.org/Praxis](http://www.ets.org/Praxis))

## **How does one register to take a Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test?**

Register at <http://www.ets.org/>

Make sure to choose the correct test number and title of the appropriate Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test needed for the corresponding endorsement. Please be certain to correctly spell your name and provide your correct Social Security number, as failure to do so will delay processing of your certificate application in Nebraska. Note that not all tests are offered during all testing windows.

## **How can I be certain my scores are reported to the correct institution and to NDE?**

If you take a Praxis Subject Assessment/Content Test at a Nebraska testing center, scores are automatically reported to the Nebraska Department of Education. If you test outside of Nebraska, you MUST indicate the Nebraska Department of Education as one of your score recipients during the test registration process. ETS allows four score recipients at no additional charge. You must also designate your 'Attending Institution' for scores to be reported to your institution.