



SBE Rule 6A-4.002 Educator Certification, & SBE Rule 6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) Rule Changes

State Board of Education

September 21, 2015

Statute 1012.56: Educator Certification Requirements Update

(3) Mastery of General Knowledge:

(e) Effective July 1, 2015, achievement of passing scores, identified in state board rule, on national or international examinations that test comparable content and relevant standards in verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning skills, including, but not limited to, the verbal, analytical writing, and quantitative reasoning portions of the Graduate Record Examination. Passing scores identified in state board rule must be at approximately the same level of rigor as is required to pass the general knowledge examinations.

Certification Rule 6A-4.002 (4)

Examinations

- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
 - Law effective **July 1, 2015**, State Board of Education may adopt standardized examinations to meet General Knowledge (GK) requirement
 - Revised Rule proposes acceptance of GRE revised General Test for GK as follows:
 - GRE Analytical Writing as a substitute for GK Essay Subtest
 - GRE Quantitative Reasoning as a substitute for GK Mathematics Subtest
 - GRE Verbal Reasoning as a substitute for GK English Language Skills and GK Reading Subtests

Certification Rule 6A-4.002 (3)

College Credit

- Minimum grade of “C” or “Pass” to use credit for professional preparation coursework
 - Professional preparation coursework aligns with Educator Preparation Program competencies
 - Educator Preparation Program admission requires GPA of 2.5
 - Initial certification requires GPA of 2.5
 - Same minimum grade for renewal credit

SBE Rule 6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) September 2015 Updates

- Adopt concordance scores for Graduate Record Examination that may be used to satisfy the requirements for the FTCE General Knowledge (GK) Test.

General Knowledge (GK) Test vs. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Revised General Test

GK Test* (4 Subtests)	GRE revised General Test** (3 Subtests)
GK Essay: 1 Essay (50 minutes)	GRE Analytical Writing: 2 Writing Tasks (30 minutes each)
GK English Language Skills: 40 MC items (40 minutes)	GRE Verbal Reasoning: Two 20 MC items (30 minutes each)
GK Reading: 40 MC items (40 minutes*)	
GK Mathematics: 45 MC items (100 minutes)	GRE Quantitative Reasoning: Two 20 MC items (35 minutes each)

* GK latest edition began on May 1, 2014. GK Reading subtest testing time increased to 55 minutes on July 1, 2015.

** GRE latest edition began on August 1, 2011. Paper-based verbal and quantitative subtests include 5 additional MC items with additional 5 minutes of testing time.

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Alignment Meeting and Concordance Study

- A 2-Day Alignment Committee Meeting on December 3 and 4, 2014:
 - The Department selected 7 content experts of Florida educators (faculty and administrators)
 - Buros of University of Nebraska conducted the alignment meeting
- Buros completed concordance study and produced a report for the Department

Concordance Study Outcomes

GK Subtest	Corresponding GRE Subtest	Concordance Scores on GRE revised General Test
GK Subtest 1:Essay	GRE Analytical Writing	4 of 6
GK Subtest 2: English Language Skills	GRE Verbal Reasoning	149
GK Subtest 3: Reading		
GK Subtest 4: Mathematics	GRE Quantitative Reasoning	143

Note 1: GRE Mean scores for (about 1.5 million) examinees testing from 8/1/2011 to 4/30/2014: Verbal: 151; Quantitative: 152; Writing: 4.

Note 2: State universities matched examinee (N=1,674: examinees who took both GK and GRE) median scores: Verbal: 150; Quantitative: 146; Writing: 4.

Analysis of Alignment Committee Recommendations and Concordance Study Outcomes

- The Office of Assessment analyzed the alignment committee review recommendations and the concordance study outcomes considering
 - matched examinee data and sample size,
 - level of alignment between corresponding subtests, and
 - potential impacts on educator quality.
- Using the appropriate measurement and psychometric guidelines, the following concordance score recommendations were made.

Recommended GRE Concordance Scores for Meeting General Knowledge Test Requirement

GK Subtest	Corresponding GRE Subtest	Concordance Scores on GRE revised General Test
GK Subtest 1:Essay	GRE Analytical Writing	4 out of 6
GK Subtest 2: English Language Skills	GRE Verbal Reasoning	151
GK Subtest 3: Reading		
GK Subtest 4: Mathematics	GRE Quantitative Reasoning	147

Note 1: GK passing scores: Subtest 1 – Essay: 8 out of 12; Subtests 2 – 4: A scale score of 200.

Note 2: GRE is a norm referenced test, so no passing scores are established.

GRE score scales: Quantitative: 130 - 170; Verbal: 130 - 170; Writing 1 - 6.



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