

Subsection (2), the introductory paragraph of subsection (6), paragraphs (6)(c), subsection (8), paragraphs(9)(l) and (n) through (s), subsection (11), and paragraph (12)(b) of Rule 6A-4.0021 are amended to read:

6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations.

(1) No change

(2) Description of the examinations and competencies to be demonstrated.

(a) The Florida Teacher Certification Examinations shall be developed by the Commissioner of Education.

(b) The written examinations shall include subtests of reading, writing, mathematics, professional skills, and subject area specialty. These examinations may contain multiple choice questions and questions requiring the examinee to write an answer or demonstrate a proficiency.

(c) The following competencies are to be demonstrated by means of the written examinations:

1. Beginning with the July 2005 ~~July 2004~~ test administration, the general knowledge competencies and skills as contained in the publication "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Tenth ~~Ninth~~ Edition."

2. Before July 1, 2005 ~~July 1, 2004~~, the professional competencies and skills contained in the publication, "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in

Florida, Ninth ~~Eighth~~ Edition" which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule. Beginning July 1, 2005 ~~July 1, 2004~~, the professional competencies and skills contained in the publication "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Tenth ~~Ninth~~ Edition" which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule. Copies of these publications may be obtained from Florida Teacher Examinations, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399 at a price to be established by the Commissioner not to exceed actual cost, and

3. Before July 1, 2005 ~~July 1, 2004~~, the subject area competencies and skills contained in the publication, "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Ninth ~~Eighth~~ Edition" which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule. Beginning July 1, 2005 ~~July 1, 2004~~, the subject area competencies and skills contained in the publication "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Tenth ~~Ninth~~ Edition" which is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule. Copies of these publications may be obtained as described in subparagraph (2)(c)2. of this rule.

(d) Before July 1, 2002, the College Level Academic Skills Test or the Praxis I: Academic Skills Assessment as described in subsection (13) of this rule shall be used to demonstrate mastery

of general knowledge for an individual who holds a bachelor's or higher degree as specified in Rules 6A-4.004, 6A-4.050, and 6A-4.066, FAC.

(3) - (5) No change

(6) Examinee with a disability. An applicant who is unable to complete the examinations under standard testing conditions because of a disability may request special arrangements. Such a request shall be made when the examination application is submitted. Lack of proficiency in the English language alone shall not ~~alone~~ be acceptable as a justifiable reason for requesting a reader for an examinee. Special arrangements shall be provided for applicants with disabilities.

(a) - (b) No change

(c) Special test arrangements may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Flexible scheduling. The person may be administered an examination during several brief sessions, so long as that examination is completed on the test administration date. Double time may be allowed.

2. Flexible setting. The person may be administered an examination individually or in a small group setting by a proctor rather than in a classroom or auditorium setting.

3. Recording of answers. The person may mark answers in a test booklet, type the answers by machine, or indicate selected

answers to a test proctor. The proctor may then transcribe the person's responses onto a machine-scorable answer sheet. In instances where the proctor is required to mark the responses on behalf of the examinee, there will be a tape recording of the examinee's selected responses. A large-block answer sheet may be provided. The person may use a word processor or typewriter to prepare any required essay or other written response. Technical support to operate the word processor or typewriter will be provided.

4. Revised format. The person may use a large-print booklet, a Braille test booklet, or a magnifying device.

5. Auditory aids. A tape recorded version of the examination may be provided, the examination may be read by a narrator, or the examination may be provided via video tape with a narrator using oral language or sign language.

6. Assistive personnel. Test personnel may be provided by the test administrator to record answers, sign test instructions, or read instructions and items other than reading passages and items text.

7. Reading passages and items must be read by the examinee through visual or tactile means.

8. Accommodations not covered by this rule may be requested through the Department of Education and will be provided, as appropriate, upon approval by the Department of

Education.

(6) (d) - (7) No change.

(8) Scoring the professional skills examination.

(a) Effective July 2003, the passing score for the professional education test shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to an examination raw score that results in an examinee passing rate of ninety-one (91) percent, which was the passing rate of teacher candidates who took the Professional Education examination for the first time during the 2001-2002 examination administration year. In the event that fewer than fifty (50) examinees are tested in the July 2003 administration, the passing score shall be sixty (60) percent of the items.

(b) Effective July 1, 2005, the passing score for the professional education test shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled passing score will be equivalent to eighty (80) correct items on the July and October 2003 test administrations.

(9) Scoring of the subject area specialty examinations.

(a)-(k) no change.

(l) Effective July 1, 2005, the passing score for the Exceptional Student Education K-12 Examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled passing score will be equivalent to seventy-seven (77) correct items on the

July and October 2002 test administrations. ~~After sufficient data have been collected, the Commissioner of Education shall review examinee performance levels for the Exceptional Student Education K-12 Examination and determine whether to recommend to the State Board of Education to maintain or change the above passing scores.~~

(m) No change.

(n) After sufficient data have been collected, the Commissioner of Education shall review examinee performance levels for ~~the Professional Education Examination,~~ the Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum 5-9 Examination, and the Physical Education K-12 Examination and determine whether to recommend to the State Board of Education to maintain or change the existing passing scores.

(o)1. Effective July 2004, the passing score for the subject area specialty examination listed below shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the raw score on the July 2004 test administration as defined below.

2. Computer Science K-12. An examination raw score that results in an examinee passing rate of eighty-three (83) percent, which was the passing rate of teacher candidates who took the Computer Science K-12 specialty examination for the first time during the 2002-2003 examination administration year. In the

event that fewer than fifty (50) examinees are tested in the July 2004 administration, the passing score shall be sixty-three (63) percent of the items.

(p) After sufficient data have been collected, the Commissioner of Education shall review examinee performance levels for the Computer Science K-12 Examination and determine whether to recommend to the State Board of Education to maintain or change the existing passing scores.

(q) Effective July 1, 2005, the passing scores for the English 6-12 subject area specialty examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the composite score of seventy one (71) on a scale that weights the multiple choice section seventy (70) percent and the essay section thirty (30) percent on the April 1989 test administration.

(r)-(q) The Commissioner of Education shall review the passing score for each of the General Knowledge Subtests, each of the subject area specialty examinations, and the Professional Education Examination not less than once every five (5) years and determine whether to recommend to the State Board of Education to maintain or change the existing passing scores.

~~(r) Before July 1, 2004, the subject area specialty examinations approved for use in the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations are listed by subject area in the~~

~~publication, "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighth Edition."~~

~~(s) Beginning July 1, 2004, the subject area specialty examinations approved for use in the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations are listed by subject area in the publication "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Ninth Edition."~~

(10) No change.

(11) Score reports for the reading, writing, mathematics, professional skills, and subject area examinations.

(a) A properly authenticated score report is defined as the original score report issued directly by the test administration agency without any qualification, reservation, or irregularity.

(b) The examinee shall be sent two (2) authenticated score reports as described in Rule 6A-4.0021(11)(10)(a), FAC. In addition, a copy of the score report may be issued by the test administration agency without a fee to one (1) Florida college or university and to one (1) Florida school district provided the examinee identifies the recipient or recipients of the score report on the either the CG-20-03A, Registration Application: Certification Examinations for Florida Educators or the CG-20-04, Registration Application: Certification Examinations for Florida Educators.

(c) Official documentation of scores earned on each

examination for a temporary or for a professional certificate shall be the original authenticated score report as described in Rule 6A-4.0021(11)(a), FAC., or a duplicate authenticated score report as described in Rule 6A-4.0021(11)(e), FAC.

(d) Scores shall be reported as Pass or Fail for each subtest of the examination. The Commissioner of Education may provide additional score information to the examinee.

(e) An examinee may obtain a duplicate authenticated score report for a test administration by filing a written request and a fee. A fee is required for each duplicate score report that is requested. The fee shall be that amount necessary for the test administration agency to perform the service as agreed in the contract between the agency and the Florida Department of Education.

(12) Review.

(a) An examinee who fails one (1) or more examination(s) may file a written request with the test administration agency for handscoring of the examination(s) failed. The request shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the date the score report was mailed by the test administration agency. The fee for handscoring one (1) or more examinations shall be that amount necessary for the test administration agency to perform the service as agreed in the contract between the agency and the Florida Department of Education. The test administration agency

shall notify the examinee of the results of the handscoring within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request and fee.

(b) An examinee who fails one (1) or more examination(s) may review each examination that was failed and bring to the Florida Department of Education's attention any scoring errors which may result in a passing score. The procedures for test review are listed below:

1. The examinee shall file a written request with Florida Teacher Examinations, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, within thirty (30) ~~sixty (60)~~ days of the date the score report was mailed by the test administration agency.

2. A processing fee is required for each request to review certification examinations for Florida educators. The fee shall be that amount necessary for the test administration agency to perform the services as agreed in the contract between the agency and the Florida Department of Education.

3. The Florida Department of Education shall notify the examinee when a date has been scheduled for the examinee's review of the materials in Tallahassee.

4. On the review day, the examinee shall file with the Florida Department of Education a statement of specific scoring errors which may result in a passing score.

5.2. The Commissioner of Education shall notify the

individual of the action on the statement of scoring errors not later than thirty (30) days from receipt of the statement.

6. An examinee may retake a failed examination that was reviewed provided at least thirty (30) days have elapsed since the date of the review. If an examinee takes an examination, including a computer-based examination, that was reviewed within thirty (30) days of the test date, the examination will be invalidated.

(13) - (15) No change.

Specific Authority 1012.55(1), 1012.56, 1012.59 FS. Law Implemented 1012.56 FS. History - New 8-27-80, Amended 1-11-82, 1-6-83, 5-3-83, 10-5-83, 10-15-84, Formerly 6A-4.021, Amended 12-25-86, 4-26-89, 4-16-90, 7-10-90, 4-22-91, 10-3-91, Amended 8-10-92, 11-28-93, 4-12-95, 7-1-96, 9-30-96, 10-1-99, 7-17-2000, 7-16-2001, 3-24-2002, 7-16-2002, 3-24-2003, 7-21-2003, 12-23-2003, 7-13-2004,