

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Action Item

June 17, 2008

SUBJECT: Approval of Proposed Amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1012.56(8), Florida Statutes

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Section 1012.56(8), Florida Statutes, requires the State Board of Education to specify, by rule, the examination scores required for the issuance of a professional certificate and temporary certificate. Such rules must define examination competencies and establish uniform evaluation guidelines.

State Board of Education Rule 6A-4.0021, FAC., fulfills the above requirement by providing a description, by reference, of the competencies and skills to be assessed. These competencies and skills are included in the document *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida*. As changes to general knowledge, professional education, and subject area competencies are made, a new edition of this document must be developed and incorporated, by reference, into the rule. Also incorporated by reference is the examination registration form, which is updated periodically to reflect changes in the testing program. In addition, this rule provides the procedures for the review of failed examinations (manual scoring and score verification).

The thirteenth edition will update the competencies and skills for three of the subject area examinations: English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Marketing 6-12, and Reading 6-12. A description of the processes used to make these updates follows.

- **FTCE Reading K–12 Expanded.** Beginning in January 2007, committee members consisting of university professors, district level administrators, teachers, Just Read Florida (JRF), and the Florida Center for Reading Research (FCRR) began to evaluate and revise the competencies and skills for the Reading K–12 subject area examinations as guided by State Board of Education Rule 6A-4.0021, FAC. Reading K–12 committee members represented all regions of the state, various school districts, educator preparation programs, and instructional philosophies. Committee members were selected through a statewide recruiting effort and recommendations from JRF and FCRR. Throughout the development process, the

Department solicited the advice and counsel of JRF and FCRR concerning appropriate instructional processes for teaching reading. The Reading K–12 committees recommended minimal changes to the competencies and skills for this area.

On May 14, 2008, the Commissioner notified school district superintendents, state college and university presidents, and presidents of the independent colleges and universities of Florida of the recommended changes to the competencies and skills.

Additionally, the Department published the draft Reading K–12 competencies and skills on the Department’s Web site in May 2008 at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/ftce/ftcecomp.asp>. The publishing of these draft competencies and skills was intended to provide Florida colleges of education and educator preparation institutes time to apply the changes needed to prepare students for the revised examination.

- **FTCE ESOL K–12.** Beginning in January 2007, committee members consisting of university professors, district level administrators, teachers, and members of the Department’s Office of Academic Achievement through Language Acquisition (AALA) began to evaluate and revise the competencies and skills for the ESOL K–12 subject area examination as guided by State Board of Education Rule 6A-4.0021, FAC. ESOL committee members represented all regions of the state, various school districts, educator preparation programs, and instructional philosophies. Committee members were selected through a statewide recruiting effort and recommendations from the Department’s program office. Throughout the development process, the Department solicited the advice and counsel of Academic and Achievement Through Language Acquisition Executive Director, then Lisa Saavedra, who participated in multiple meetings directly and via teleconference. The ESOL committees recommended minimal changes to the competencies and skills for this area.

On May 14, 2008, the Commissioner notified school district superintendents, state college and university presidents, and presidents of the independent colleges and universities of Florida of the recommended changes to the competencies and skills.

Additionally, the Department published the draft ESOL competencies and skills on the Department’s Web site in May 2008 at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/ftce/ftcecomp.asp>. The publishing of these draft competencies and skills was intended to provide Florida colleges of education and educator preparation institutes time to apply the changes needed to prepare students for the revised examination.

- **FTCE Marketing K–12.** Beginning in January 2007, committee members consisting of university professors, district level administrators, and teachers began to evaluate and revise the competencies and skills for the Marketing K–12 subject area examination as guided by State Board of Education Rule 6A-4.0021, FAC. Marketing K–12 committee members represented all regions of the state, various

school districts, educator preparation programs, and instructional philosophies. Committee members were selected through a statewide recruiting effort. The Marketing K–12 committees recommended significant changes to the competencies and skills for this area. As a result, the Department conducted a statewide survey of Florida educators in 2007. Five hundred and seventy-four educator surveys were distributed to educators for providing feedback and direction to the Department.

On May 14, 2008, the Commissioner notified school district superintendents, state college and university presidents, and presidents of the independent colleges and universities of Florida of the recommended changes to the competencies and skills.

Additionally, the Department published the draft Marketing K–12 competencies and skills on the Department’s Web site in May 2008 at <http://www.fldoe.org/asp/ftce/ftcecomp.asp>. The publishing of these draft competencies and skills was intended to provide Florida colleges of education and educator preparation institutes time to apply the changes needed to prepare students for the revised examination.

At this time, amendments are requested to adopt the thirteenth edition of the *Competencies and Skills* document, effective October 1, 2008, and the updated registration form, effective August 1, 2008. In addition, approval is requested for the specified changes to the procedures for reviewing failed examinations through manual scoring and score verification sessions.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations, Form CG-20-04, Recommended Changes to the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations Competencies and Skills, FTCE Reading Committee Members Invited and Attending Development Activities, FTCE ESOL Committee Members Invited and Attending Development Activities, FTCE Marketing Committee Members Attending Development Activities, Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Thirteenth Edition (available under separate cover)

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