

Subsections (4) and (8) and paragraphs (9)(m) - (o) of Rule 6A-4.0021 are amended to read:

6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations.

(4) Registration, late registration and refunds.

(a) Registration for the examinations shall be for the initial examinations or for one (1) or more examinations not previously passed. To register to take the examinations, an applicant shall submit a completed application which shall be received by the test administration agency at least fifty (50) days preceding the examination date.

1. Before October 1, 2003, ~~July 1, 2003~~, a complete application shall consist of the following:

a. A completed application Form CG-20-03, ~~Form CG-20-02~~, Registration Application: Certification Examinations for Florida Educators, which includes the applicant's signature. Form CG-20-03, ~~Form CG-20-02~~, Registration Application: Certification Examinations for Florida Educators is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule to become effective July 2003 ~~July 2002~~. This form may be obtained without cost from the Bureau of Educator Certification, Florida Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

b. A twenty-five (25) dollar fee for each registration for a subject area specialty examination or any combination of subtests for a subject area specialty examination, for each registration for the professional skills examination, and for each registration for the general knowledge test or any combination of subtests for the general knowledge test.

c. A charge of one hundred (100) dollars in addition to the fees described in Rule 6A-4.0021(4)(a)1.b., FAC., for certification applicants taking a supplemental examination.

2. Beginning October 1, 2003, ~~July 1, 2003~~, a completed application shall consist of the following:

a. A completed application Form CG-20-03A, ~~Form CG-20-03~~, Registration Application: Certification Examinations for Florida Educators, which includes the applicant's signature. Form CG-20-03A ~~Form CG-20-03~~ is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this rule to become effective October 1, 2003 ~~July 2003~~. This form may be obtained without cost from the Bureau of Educator Certification, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

b. A twenty-five (25) dollar fee for each registration for a subject area specialty examination or any combination of subtests for a subject area specialty examination, each registration for the professional skills examination, and each registration for the general knowledge test or any combination of subtests for the general knowledge test.

c. A charge of one hundred (100) dollars in addition to the fees described in Rule 6A-4.0021(4)(a)2.b., FAC., for certification applicants taking a supplemental examination.

3. An incomplete application shall be returned to the applicant. Applications which are completed and resubmitted to the test administration agency after the fifty (50) day deadline shall be acceptable only if the applicant complies with requirements specified in Rule 6A-4.0021(4)(b), FAC.

(b) Late registration for the examinations shall be for the initial examinations or

for one (1) or more examinations not previously passed. An applicant who did not submit a completed application to the test administration agency within the fifty (50) day deadline may register for the examination by completing the requirements listed in Rule 6A-4.0021(4)(a)1., FAC., and submitting a fifteen (15) dollar late charge for each registration for a subject area specialty examination; each registration for the professional skills examination and each registration for any combination of the General Knowledge Test ~~College Level Academic Skills Test~~ subtests. Beginning October 1, 2003, ~~July 1, 2002~~, an applicant who did not submit a completed application to the test administration agency within the fifty (50) day deadline may register for the examinations by completing the requirements listed in Rule 6A-4.0021(4)(a)2., FAC., and submitting a fifteen (15) dollar late charge for each registration for a subject area specialty examination or any combination of subtests for a subject area specialty examination; each registration for the professional education examination; and each registration for the general knowledge examination or any combination of the general knowledge subtests. All items shall be received by the test administration agency at least thirty (30) days preceding the examination date. Late registrations shall be accepted on a space available basis.

(c) Refunds. Fees shall be refunded provided written requests for refunds are received by the test administration agency at least thirty (30) days preceding the examination date. Failure to appear for or to complete an examination shall result in forfeiture of fees.

(8) Scoring the professional skills examination. 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 (61) percent of the items.

~~(a) A passing score shall be a scaled score of at least 200.~~

~~(b) Performance equivalent to a scaled score of 200 is expressed as a Rasch logit value. The minimum acceptable performance equivalent to a scaled score of 200 as determined from the field test conducted by the Department in April, 1980 is a logit value of 0.70 on the professional skills examination.~~

~~(c) The passing score on subsequent forms of the professional skills examination shall be equated to a score of 200 on the score scale derived from the field tests identified in Rule 6A-4.0021(7)(b), FAC.~~

(9) Scoring of the subject area specialty examinations.

(m) Effective July 2003, the passing scores for the subject area specialty examinations listed below shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the raw scores on the July 2003 test administration as defined below:

1. Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum Examination. An examination raw score that results in an examinee passing rate of sixty-eight (68) percent, which was the average of the passing rates of teacher candidates who took the Middle Grades English 5-9, Middle Grades General Science 5-9, Middle Grades Mathematics 5-9, and

Middle Grades Social Science 5-9 specialty examinations 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 fifty-nine (59) percent of the items.

2. Physical Education K-12 Examination. An examination raw score that results in an examinee passing rate of seventy-five (75) percent, which was the average of the passing rates of teacher candidates who took the Physical Education K-8 and Physical Education 6-12 specialty examinations for the first time during the 2001-2002 examination administration year. In the event fewer than fifty (50) examinees are tested in the July 2003 administration, the passing score shall be sixty (60) percent of the items.

(n) Not later than September 1, 2004, 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)(m) 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.

(p)(n) Before July 1, 2003, 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, Seventh Edition."

~~(g)(e)~~Beginning July 1, 2003, the subject area specialty examinations approved for use in the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations are listed by subject area in the publication ~~A~~Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighth Edition.@

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,