



State of California
Commission on Teacher Credentialing
1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95811-4213
Email: credentials@ctc.ca.gov
Website: www.ctc.ca.gov

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENT

The California Education Code and Title 5 Regulations specify, in most cases, that applicants for a credential, certificate, or permit to serve in the public schools of California must verify basic skills proficiency before the credential, certificate, or permit will be issued. For Multiple and Single Subject Teaching Credential candidates, the basic skills requirement must be met prior to being assigned to daily responsibility for whole class instruction in student teaching or serving as an intern. However, institutions may require the basic skills requirement prior to program enrollment. Contact the college or university education department for more information.

The basic skills requirement may also be required as a condition of employment. Applicants should contact the school district where they are considering employment for more information.

OPTIONS FOR MEETING THE BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENT

Individuals may satisfy the basic skills requirement by **one** of the following methods:

1. Pass the CBEST

Individuals only need to pass The California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) once; CBEST passing scores remain valid indefinitely for all credential and employment purposes. To pass the CBEST, one must obtain a minimum scaled score of 41 in each of the three sections—reading, writing, and mathematics. However, a score as low as 37 on an individual section is acceptable if the total scaled score is at least 123. Any or all sections of the CBEST can be repeated as many times as necessary to obtain a passing score, but the full registration fee is charged for each test administration.

Additional information and instructions for test registration and administration processes may be obtained by contacting the CBEST program.

CBEST Program

Evaluation Systems group of Pearson

P.O. Box 340880

Sacramento, CA 95834-0880

(916) 928-4001

(TDD) 928-4191

Automated Information System (24 hours a day)

(800) 262-5080

Email: cbestmail@nesinc.com

Website: <http://www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/>

Please include your postal address in email messages.

2. Pass the CSET: Multiple Subjects Plus Writing Skills Examination

The California Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET): Multiple Subjects examination has been modified, adding an assessment of basic writing skills. Passage of the CSET: Writing Skills examination (test #142) can be added to passage of the CSET: Multiple Subjects Examination (subtests #101, 102, & 103) to meet the basic skills requirement. Passing exam scores used to meet the basic skills requirement only remain valid indefinitely. See www.ctcexams.nesinc.com for more information.

3. Pass the CSU Early Assessment Program or the CSU Placement Examinations

Passing scores on the California State University (CSU) Early Assessment Program (EAP) (English and Mathematics sections) or the CSU Placement Examinations (English Placement Test [EPT] and Entry Level Mathematics [ELM]) are sufficient to meet the basic skills requirement. General information and instructions for ordering score reports for all three exams may be found at the Educational Testing Service (ETS) website at <http://www.ets.org/csu>. See [Coded Correspondence 09-03](#) for additional information.

Individuals filing applications directly to the Commission must submit **original** passing score reports with their application packet. Individuals who file their application through the Commission's online process or through a local employing agency may submit a photocopy/verified true original of the score report. Passing exam scores remain valid indefinitely for credential purposes. See Table 1 for passing scores.

Table 1

CSU EAP Placement Tests (taken in Spring of 11 th grade)		
	Math	English
<i>Early Assessment Program (EAP)</i>	'College Ready' or 'Exempt'	'College Ready' or 'Exempt'
CSU Placement Tests		
	Math	English
<i>Entry Level Math (ELM)</i>	50*	
<i>English Placement Test (EPT)</i>		151

* *ELM tests taken prior to March 2002 required a minimum passing score of 550.*

4. Achieve Qualifying Score on the SAT or ACT

Candidates who achieve specified scores on the SAT or ACT that waive the CSU's EPT and ELM requirements may use these scores to meet the basic skills requirement. [Coded Correspondence 15-03](#) explains that an individual having earned a score of 500 or higher on the Critical Reading section of the College Board SAT Reasoning Test exam combined with a score of 550 or higher on the SAT Mathematics exam is determined to have met the basic skills requirement. An individual having earned a score of 22 or higher on the ACT English exam combined with a score of 23 or higher on the ACT Mathematics exam is determined to have met the basic skills requirement. See Table 2.

Table 2

Examination	Math	English
<i>College Board SAT</i>	550	500*
<i>(ACT)</i>	23	22

* Critical Reading section of the College Board SAT Reasoning Test.

5. College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations

As noted in [Coded Correspondence 15-03](#), CSU also waives the EPT and ELM requirements for students who achieve a score of 3 or higher on the College Board AP English exam and AP Calculus or AP Statistics exam. Therefore, the Commission will also accept scores of 3 or higher on AP English and either AP Calculus or AP Statistics to meet the basic skills requirement. Table 3 shows how the scores may be applied.

Table 3

Examination	Math	English
<i>College Board Advanced Placement Examinations</i>	Score of 3 or above on one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP Calculus AB • AP Calculus BC • AP Statistics 	Score of 3 or above on one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP English Language and Composition • AP English Literature and Composition

6. Pass a Basic Skills Examination from Another State

The Commission will accept basic skills examinations from other states. A photocopy of the score report or letter from the testing agency verifying passage of the examination must be submitted with the application packet. There is no recency requirement for the date the examination was passed. See the Out-of-State Basic Skills Examinations chart at the end of this leaflet for a listing of acceptable examinations from other states.

Obtaining Duplicate Score Reports of the EAP, ELM, or EPT Exams

Early Assessment Program (EAP)

Send a letter, via email or postal mail, to ETS (contact information provided below), including name, date of birth, high school of attendance in the 11th grade, the city in which the high school located, and, if known, the month and year when the EAP exam was taken. Individuals may request that ETS send duplicate exam scores directly to the Commission; however, the original score report must still be included in the application packet. There may be a fee for a duplicate EAP score.

Allow 7 to 10 business days for a response. Individuals will receive, via email, a letter on ETS letterhead verifying passage of the exam. The letter must say that the individual has passed both the English and the Mathematics sections otherwise the scores do not meet the basic skills requirement.

Educational Testing Service

1600 K Street, Suite 4A, Sacramento, CA 95814

Duplicate Request Email: EAPDups@ets.org

General Information Email Contact: cgrueter@ets.org

Website: <http://www.ets.org/csu> (click on the 'Contacts' link)

Telephone: (916) 403-2412

English Placement Test (EPT) and Entry Level Mathematics (ELM)

If exams were taken after March 2007, score reports are available online at the ETS website. The online score report indicates it has been printed from the CSU EPT/ELM website and is acceptable verification of meeting the BSR.

If exams were taken prior to March 2007, send a letter to ETS at the address provided below, including name, social security number, mailing address, check or money order in the amount of \$10 payable to ETS, and, if known, the month and year the exams were taken. Allow 7 to 10 business days for a response. Individuals will receive, via U.S. Postal Service, a letter on EPT/ELM score report paper with the student's scores, and the CSU seal as an embedded watermark. Individuals may request that ETS send duplicate exam scores directly to the Commission; however, the original score report must still be included in the application packet.

CSU EPT/ELM Processing

2731 Systron Drive

Concord, CA 94518

Email: EPT-ELMRequests@ets.org

Website: <http://www.ets.org/csu> (click on the 'Contacts' link)

Telephone: (925) 808-2142

COMBINING EXAMINATION SCORES

Generally, as described in [Coded Correspondence 09-03](#), there is no mixing and matching of different sections of examinations that satisfy the BSR. For example, an individual cannot combine passage of the mathematics section of the EAP, with the reading section of the CBEST, and the Writing section of the CSET: Multiple Subjects Plus Writing examination.

However, since the EAP and EPT/ELM examinations are linked for CSU admission and placement, the Commission will accept a combination of scores from the EAP and EPT/ELM Examinations to meet the BSR as long as the individual passes a section of English and a section for Mathematics. For example, an individual may combine passage of the Mathematics EAP and the CSU Placement Examination in English (EPT) to satisfy the BSR. See [Coded Correspondence 11-18](#).

EXEMPTIONS

Applicants for the following documents are exempt from the basic skills requirement:

1. Renewal, reissuance, or upgrading of existing non-emergency credentials, certificates, or permits unless it is specifically indicated as a renewal requirement on the document
2. An additional credential, certificate, or permit to teach when the applicant holds a non-emergency California teaching credential which required a bachelor's degree
3. Credentials issued solely for teaching adults in apprenticeship programs
4. Designated Subjects Vocational Education, Career Technical Education, or Special Subjects Teaching Credentials for which a bachelor's degree is not required
5. Certificates of Clearance
6. Activity Supervisor Clearance Certificates
7. Child Development Permits
8. Visiting Faculty Permits

9. Eminence Credentials
10. Health Services Credentials, unless the document also authorizes teaching
11. Candidates who are prelingually deaf. This includes all credential types that have basic skills as a requirement for those serving in state special schools or in special classes for pupils with hearing impairments. Prelingually deaf individuals who choose this option will be required to complete a job-related assessment. See the [Guide for Verifying the Proficiency of Prelingually Deaf Credential Candidates](#) found on the Commission's website for complete details.

Applicants for the following documents may serve on a credential for one year pending the completion of the basic skills requirement:

- Exchange Credentials
- One-Year Nonrenewable (OYNR) Credentials (some services and teaching credentials may be issued to applicants who have completed their professional training outside of California and who have met all of the requirements for an initial California credential except for completion of the basic skills requirement). Applicants for the OYNR credential must submit a completed application packet through a California school district or county office of education that includes written verification that they have offered employment to the credential applicant, **and** the applicant has passed a basic skills test developed by the district or county. (The district basic skills test does not replace the basic skills requirement.)
- Out-of-state prepared holders of the preliminary multiple subject, single subject, and education specialist credentials must complete the basic skills requirement during the first year of certification

NOTE: Any examination information provided in this leaflet is subject to change. Please see the testing agency's website for the most current information.

Reference: California Education Code, Section 44252 and 44830

Out-of-State Basic Skills Exams Guide July 2015

Dashes (-----) in the *exam name* column indicates that the state testing information is inconclusive. If an educator submits a basic skills examination from one of these states, the educator must include information from the state verifying that the examination meets the basic skills requirement.

State	Exam	Exam Name	Exam Info Web Site	State Web Site
Alabama	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program (AECTP) 2012-2013 (Formerly APTTP) 	https://actapps.act.org/wkala/wkala	www.alsde.edu/sec/tc/pages/home.aspx
Alaska	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) West-B 	www.ets.org www.cbest.nesinc.com www.west.nesinc.com education.alaska.gov/teachercertification/praxis.html	www.eed.state.ak.us/
Arizona	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Skills Exam (if passed between January 1984 and January 1999) 	Not applicable	www.azed.gov/
Arkansas	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org/praxis/ar/requirements www.ets.org	www.arkansased.org/
Colorado	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.cde.state.co.us/
Connecticut	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org/praxis/ct/requirements www.ets.org	www.sde.ct.gov/sde/site/default.asp



Delaware	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) 	www.ets.org www.cbest.nesinc.com deeds.doe.k12.de.us/certificate/deeds_testing.aspx	www.doe.k12.de.us/
District of Columbia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/16)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/dc/requirements/	osse.dc.gov/
Florida	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida Teacher Certification <i>(Beginning July 1, 2002)</i> Examinations (FTCE)- General Knowledge Test (GK) CLAST <i>(1982-June 30, 2002)</i> 	www.fl.nesinc.com/tests.asp www.fldoe.org/asp/clast/clstpscr.asp	www.fldoe.org/EdCert/
Georgia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georgia Assessments for the Certification of Educators (GACE) 200, 201, 202 Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 3/5/2007)</i> 	www.gapsc.com/EducatorPreparation/Assessment/BasicSkillsInfo.aspx www.gapsc.com/EducatorPreparation/Assessment/Testing.aspx www.ets.org	public.doe.k12.ga.us www.gapsc.com/
Guam	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org/praxis/gu/requirements gcec.guam.gov/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Certification-Table-for-All-Educators.pdf	sites.google.com/a/gdoe.net/gdoe/
Hawaii	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 6/30/14)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/hi/requirements	www.htsb.org/ (Hawaii Teacher Standards Board) doe.k12.hi.us/index.html



Idaho	-----	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.sde.idaho.gov/site/teacher_certification/
Illinois	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illinois Certification Testing System (ICTS): Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) - four subtests beginning 9/12/2012 ICTS – Basic Skills Test (#096 if all sections passed before 8/31/2010; #300 if passed between 9/11/2010 and 9/11/2012) 	www.il.nesinc.com/IL_TAP_FAQ.asp	www.isbe.net/licensure/html/testing.htm www.isbe.net/default.htm
Indiana	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Academic Skills Assessment (CASA) (beginning Summer 2013) Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org www.in.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Tests.html www.in.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IN001_TestPage.html	www.doe.in.gov/
Iowa	-----	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.educateiowa.gov// www.iowa.gov/boee
Kansas	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (if passed between 5/1/1986 to 7/1/2002) 	Not applicable	www.ksde.org/
Kentucky	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org	education.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx www.epsb.ky.gov/
Louisiana	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (scores differ depending on year passed) 	www.ets.org	www.doe.state.la.us/



Maine	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/2014)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/me/requirements/ www.ets.org/praxis/me	www.maine.gov/doe/
Maryland	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org	www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/certification/certification_branch/testing
Massachusetts	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.doe.mass.edu/ www.mass.edu/home.asp
Michigan	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC): Basic Skills Test 	www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_5683_5857---,00.html	www.michigan.gov/mde
Minnesota	Not currently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minnesota Teacher Licensure Examinations (MTLE): Basic Skills <i>(beginning 9/1/2010)</i> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 9/1/2010)</i> 	www.ets.org	education.state.mn.us/MDE/EdExc/Licen/index.html
Mississippi	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/ms/requirements www.mde.k12.ms.us/docs/educator-licensure/new-praxis-test--core-academic-skills-for-educators-(core).pdf?sfvrsn=0	www.mde.k12.ms.us/
Missouri	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	dese.mo.gov/
Montana	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	opi.mt.gov/



Nebraska	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) 	www.ets.org www.education.ne.gov/tcert/pdfs/Test.pdf www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/	www.education.ne.gov/TCE/RT/ www.education.ne.gov/index.html
Nevada	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) 	www.ets.org www.cbest.nesinc.com www.ets.org/praxis/nv/requirements	www.doe.nv.gov/
New Hampshire	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/nh/requirements	www.education.nh.gov/ www.education.nh.gov/certification/
New Jersey	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.state.nj.us/education/
New Mexico	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Mexico Assessment of Teacher Basic Skills 	www.nmta.nesinc.com/	www.ped.state.nm.us www.ped.state.nm.us/licensure/index.html
New York	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	usny.nysed.gov/teachers/
North Carolina	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/14)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org/praxis/nc/requirements www.ets.org	www.ncpublicschools.org/licensure/ stateboard.ncpublicschools.gov/
North Dakota	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org	www.nd.gov/espb/ www.nd.gov/espb/licensure/testing.html



Ohio	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEPrimary.aspx?page=2&TopicRelationID=513
Oklahoma	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oklahoma General Education Test (OGET) • Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ok.gov/octp/index.html www.ceoe.nesinc.com/ www.ets.org	www.ok.gov/sde/home/defaultie.html www.ok.gov/octp/
Oregon	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NES Essential Academic Skills Test • West-B • California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) • Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) • Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.west.nesinc.com www.cbest.nesinc.com/ www.ets.org www.orela.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/NT001_TestPage.html www.ets.org/praxis/or/requirements	www.oregon.gov/tspc/Pages/index.aspx
Pennsylvania	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) (<i>beginning 4/2/2012</i>) • The Core Academic Skills for Educators (CORE) modules in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. • Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) (<i>if passed prior to 4/2/2012</i>) 	www.pa.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_WhatTestsDoINeedToTake.html www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/testing_requirements/8638 http://www.ets.org/praxis/pa/requirements	www.pde.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/pennsylvania_department_of_education/7237
Rhode Island	-----	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.ride.ri.gov/ www.ride.ri.gov/educatorquality/certification/default.aspx



South Carolina	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/2014)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/sc/requirements	ed.sc.gov/
South Dakota	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	doe.sd.gov/
Tennessee	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/tn/requirements/	www.state.tn.us/education/lic/
Texas	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THEA (Texas Higher Education Assessment)<i>(Prior to 9/1/2003, examination was Texas Academic Skills Program [TASP])</i> 	http://www.thea.nesinc.com/	www.tea.state.tx.us/portals.aspx?id=2147484909
Utah	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	www.schools.utah.gov/cert/
Vermont	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/2014)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/vt/requirements	education.vermont.gov/ education.vermont.gov/licensing
Virginia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) <i>(if passed prior to 8/31/2014)</i> Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment <i>(beginning 1/1/2014)</i> 	www.ets.org www.doe.virginia.gov/teaching/educator_preparation/college_programs/entry_assessment.pdf www.ets.org/praxis/va/requirements	www.virginia.gov/education



Washington	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington Educator Skills Test – Basic (West-B) • California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST) • Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.west.nesinc.com/ www.ctcexams.nesinc.com/ www.ets.org	www.teachwashington.org/ www.pesb.wa.gov/ www.k12.wa.us/
West Virginia	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) • Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators Assessment 	www.ets.org www.ets.org/praxis/wv/requirements	wvde.state.wv.us/certification/ wvde.state.wv.us/
Wisconsin	yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST) 	www.ets.org tepd.dpi.wi.gov/licensing/wisconsin-educator-testing-requirements	dpi.wi.gov/tepd/index.html
Wyoming	no	Not applicable	Not applicable	ptsb.state.wy.us/

Resources

Leaflets:

Basic Skills Requirement (BSR) CL-667: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl667.pdf>

Examinations for Teacher Certification CL-818: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl818.pdf>

Coded Correspondence:

09-03 - Implementation of Senate Bill 1186 Concerning the Basic Skills Requirement

07-18 - Changes to the Basic Skills Requirement