

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Action Item**  
November 18, 2014

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

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**PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

For Approval

**AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION**

Section 1012.56(9), Florida Statutes

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Section 1012.56(9), F.S., requires the State Board of Education (SBE) 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 and passing scores for the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE).

Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., 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.

In addition, Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., fulfills the above requirement by providing passing scores for each of the FTCE examinations. The passing scores listed within the rule provide examinees the minimum number of items that must be answered correctly to achieve a passing score. The new passing scores for the General Knowledge Test and five (5) subject area examinations [Computer Science K–12, Elementary Education K–6 (Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading, Subtest 2: Social Science, Subtest 3: Science, Subtest 4: Mathematics), English 6–12, Middle Grades English 5–9, and Technology Education 6–12] will become effective January 1, 2015, and will remain the passing scores for all succeeding test forms for these areas.

The "Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition," will update the competencies and skills for two (2) subject area examinations: Business Education 6–12 and Spanish K–12. The competencies and skills for Business Education 6–12 and Spanish K–12 have been updated to reflect alignment with the National Business Education Standards and the 2011 Florida Next Generation World Languages Standards, respectively, as well as the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices.

A description of the processes used to make these updates follows.

- Business Education 6–12. Beginning in March 2014, committee members consisting of university/college professors, district curriculum coordinators, and teachers began to evaluate and revise the competencies and skills for this subject area examination as guided by Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C. The committees recommended changes to the competencies and

skills to align to the National Business Education Standards and the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices. 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 via recommendations from the Florida Department of Education's Division of Career and Adult Education and the Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development, and Retention.

- Spanish K–12. Beginning in March 2014, committee members consisting of university/college professors, district curriculum coordinators, and teachers began to evaluate and revise the competencies and skills for this subject area examination as guided by Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C. The committees recommended changes to the competencies and skills to align to the state-approved Next Generation World Language Standards, SBE Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C., and the Florida Educator Accomplished Practices, Rule 6A-5.065, F.A.C. 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 via recommendations from the Florida Department of Education's Bureau of Student Achievement through Language Acquisition and the Bureau of Educator Recruitment, Development, and Retention.

A paperless memorandum, issued from the Commissioner of Education on January 27, 2014, notified school district superintendents, state college and university college of education deans, and deans of educator preparation programs of Florida of the revision of the competencies and skills and solicited committee member recommendations from superintendents, principals, and deans.

Additionally, the Department will publish the final Business Education 6–12 and Spanish K–12 competencies and skills on the Department's website in late 2014, at <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/assessments/postsecondary-assessment/index.shtml>. The publishing of these new competencies and skills is intended to provide Florida colleges of education and educator preparation institutes time to apply the changes needed to prepare students to meet the new expectations embodied in the revised examination, as well as to benefit potential examinees.

To recommend new passing scores, the Department convened representative statewide committees of public school teachers, university/college professors, and district curriculum coordinators with expertise in the affected areas. These committees used an established and widely accepted standard-setting methodology to recommend passing scores. The passing score changes are necessary to reflect expectations of examinee performance with respect to the alignment of the test with the updated SBE approved area competencies and skills, as well as new educator standards for effectiveness. The passing scores are reflective of the level of ability required for an individual to be considered a beginning effective teacher candidate. Based on the committee recommendations, the Department then analyzed the outcomes considering pass rates, test form difficulty, subgroup performance, and potential impacts on certification needs. By applying appropriate measurement and psychometric standards, the Department is recommending new passing scores for the indicated FTCE examinations. Table 1 shows the recommended passing scores (number correct), recommended percentage correct, and the projected pass rates for the General Knowledge Test and the five (5) subject area examinations.

For example, for the General Knowledge Mathematics subtest, it is recommended to set the required number correct needed to 31 out of 45 items (69%), which is higher than the linked standard of 22 out 45 items (49%). Based on the sample used to set these standards, it is projected that the first-time examinee passing rate for the examination will

be approximately 59%, which is lower than previous passing rates of 88%. These projected changes in passing rates are due to the increases in the required percentage correct and the increased difficulty of the examinations as a result of the increased rigor of the competencies and skills.

**Table 1. Recommended Passing Scores and the Projected Pass Rates**

FTCE Test	Recommended Number Correct	Recommended Percentage Correct	Projected Passing Rates
General Knowledge Test Subtest 1: Essay	8/12	67%	62%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 2: English Language Skills	27/40	68%	68%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 3: Reading	26/38	68%	51%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 4: Mathematics	31/45	69%	59%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading	42/60	70%	55%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 2: Social Science	37/54	69%	59%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 3: Science	36/54	67%	64%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 4: Mathematics	35/50	70%	58%
Computer Science K–12	85/120	71%	NA
English 6-12, Multiple-Choice (MC) & Writing Sections	MC 56/80 & Writing 8/12	MC 70% & Writing 67%	41%
Middle Grades English 5-9, Multiple-Choice (MC) & Writing Sections	MC 58/80 & Writing 8/12	MC 73% & Writing 67%	25%
Technology Education 6–12	89/120	74%	52%

**Note:** Projected passing rates (for the recommended cut scores) were calculated for first-time

examinees taking the base forms in May 2014 for General Knowledge Test and Elementary Education K–6 all subtests; in March, April, and June 2014 for English 6–12; from March to May 2014 for Middle Grades English 5–9; and from April to June 2014 for Computer Science K–12 and Technology Education 6–12.

Further, a new testing, scoring, and reporting format and fees will become effective January 1, 2015, for English 6–12 and Middle Grades English 5–9, as outlined in Table 2.

**Table 2. New Fee Structure for English 6–12 and Middle Grades English 5–9**

Testing Format	Fee
First-Time Registration Full Battery	\$200
Retake Single Section Registration	\$150
Retake Full Battery Registration	\$220

Note: First-time examinees must register for the full battery for their first attempt.

Rule amendments are requested to adopt the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the document, “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida,” effective October 1, 2015, and the adoption of new passing scores for the General Knowledge Test and five (5) subject area examinations which will become effective January 1, 2015.

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Proposed Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations. Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition (under separate cover)

**Facilitator/Presenter:** Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner, Accountability, Research, and Measurement

#### **6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations.**

(1) Scope. This rule governs the written examinations for teacher certification. Additional requirements for certification are specified in Chapter 6A-4, F.A.C.

(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 English language skills, 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. Before October 1, 2015, ~~July 1, 2013~~, the ~~general knowledge competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighteenth Edition,” (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-01498>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective July 1, 2013. Beginning March 1, 2014, the general knowledge competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Nineteenth Edition,” (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-02390>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective March 1, 2014. Beginning April 1, 2014, the general knowledge competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twentieth Edition,” (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-03636>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective April 1, 2014. Beginning October 1, 2015, the general knowledge competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition.” (INSERT LINK), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective October 1, 2015. These publications may be obtained by contacting the Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400.~~

2. Before October 1, 2015, ~~July 1, 2013~~, the ~~professional education competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighteenth Edition,” (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-01498>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule. Beginning March 1, 2014, the professional education competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Nineteenth Edition,” which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule. Beginning April 1, 2014, the professional education competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twentieth Edition,” (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-03636>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective April 1, 2014. Beginning October 1, 2015, the professional education competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition.” (INSERT LINK), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective October 1, 2015. These publications may be obtained by contacting the Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400.~~

3. Before October 1, 2015, ~~July 1, 2013~~, the ~~subject area competencies and skills contained in the publication~~

~~“Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighteenth Edition,”~~ (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-01498>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule. ~~Beginning March 1, 2014, the subject area competencies and skills contained in the publication~~ “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Nineteenth Edition,” which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule. ~~Beginning April 1, 2014, the subject area competencies and skills contained~~ in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twentieth Edition,” (<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-03636>), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective April 1, 2014. Beginning October 1, 2015, the subject area competencies and skills contained in the publication “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition,” (INSERT LINK), which is incorporated by reference and made part of this rule effective October 1, 2015. These publications may be obtained by contacting the Division of Accountability, Research and Measurement, Department of Education, 325 West Gaines Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400.

(3) through (4)(d) No change.

(e) Beginning January 1, 2015, registration fees for English 6–12 and Middle Grades English 5–9 shall be as follows:

<u>First-Time Registration (Full Battery)</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>
<u>Single Section Retake Registration</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>
<u>Full Battery Retake Registration</u>	<u>\$220.00</u>

(f) (e) Refunds. Fees may be refunded provided written requests for refunds are received by the test administration agency at least twenty-four (24) hours preceding the examination date. Failure to appear for or to complete an examination shall result in forfeiture of fees.

(5) through (6) No change.

(7) Scoring the general knowledge subtests.

(a) Effective January 2004, the passing scores for the general knowledge subtests listed below shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200) for multiple-choice sections. The passing score for the Essay subtest shall be a total raw score of at least six (6). ~~This~~ These scaled score shall be equivalent to the following raw scores on the July 2002 test administration:

1. (a) General Knowledge Reading Subtest: 25 correct items.
2. (b) General Knowledge English Language Skills Subtest: 29 correct items.
3. (c) General Knowledge Mathematics Subtest: 26 correct items.
4. (d) General Knowledge English Essay Subtest: A total raw score of six (6).

(b) Effective January 2015, the passing scores for the general knowledge subtests listed below shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200) for multiple-choice sections. The passing score for the Essay subtest shall be a total raw score of at least eight (8). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered in May 2014:

1. General Knowledge Essay Subtest: A total raw score of at least eight (8).
2. General Knowledge English Language Skills Subtest: twenty-seven (27) correct items.
3. General Knowledge Reading Subtest: twenty- six (26) correct items.

4. General Knowledge Mathematics Subtest: thirty-one (31) correct items.

(8) through (9)(q) No change.

(r) Effective January 1, 2012, the passing score 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 following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered between March and April 2011:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>Educational Media Specialist PK-12</u>	<u>85 correct items</u>
<u>Exceptional Student Education K-12</u>	<u>81 correct items</u>
<u>Social Science 6-12</u>	<u>87 correct items</u>

~~Educational Media Specialist PK-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty-five (85) correct items on the March 2011 and April 2011 test administrations.~~

(s) Effective ~~September~~ January 1, 2012, the passing score 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 following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered between January 2011 and April 2012:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>Biology 6-12</u>	<u>83 correct items</u>
<u>Chemistry 6-12</u>	<u>71 correct items</u>
<u>Earth-Space Science 6-12</u>	<u>83 correct items</u>
<u>Middle Grades General Science 5-9</u>	<u>84 correct items</u>
<u>Physics 6-12</u>	<u>60 correct items</u>

~~Exceptional Student Education K-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty-one (81) correct items on the April 2011 test administration.~~

(t) Effective ~~September~~ January 1, 2012, the passing score 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 following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered between January and March 2012:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>Health K-12</u>	<u>83 correct items</u>
<u>Physical Education K-12</u>	<u>85 correct items</u>

~~Social Science 6-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty-seven (87) correct items on the March 2011 test administration.~~

(u) Effective March ~~September~~ 1, 2012, the passing score 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 following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered between May and August 2013:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>English for Speakers of Other Languages K-12</u>	<u>81 correct items</u>
<u>Mathematics 6-12</u>	<u>48 correct items</u>
<u>Middle Grades Mathematics 5-9</u>	<u>52 correct items</u>

~~Biology 6-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty three (83) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered between January 2011 and April 2012.~~

~~(v) Effective September 1, 2012, the passing score for the Chemistry 6-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of seventy one (71) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered between January 2011 and April 2012.~~

~~(w) Effective September 1, 2012, the passing score for the Middle Grades General Science 5-9 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty four (84) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered between January 2011 and April 2012.~~

~~(x) Effective September 1, 2012, the passing score for the Earth Space Science 6-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty three (83) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered between January 2011 and April 2012.~~

~~(y) Effective September 1, 2012, the passing score for the Physics 6-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of sixty (60) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered between January 2011 and April 2012.~~

~~(z) Effective September 1, 2012, the passing score for the Physical Education K-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty five (85) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered in January and February 2012.~~

~~(aa) Effective September 1, 2012, the passing score for the Health K-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty three (83) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered between January and March 2012.~~

~~(bb) Effective March 1, 2014, the passing score for the English for Speakers of Other Languages K-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of eighty one (81) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered in May and June 2013.~~

~~(cc) Effective March 1, 2014, the passing score for the Mathematics 6-12 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of forty eight (48) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered in July and August 2013.~~

~~(dd) Effective March 1, 2014, the passing score for the Middle Grades Mathematics 5-9 examination shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to a raw score of fifty two (52) correct items on the test form used for standard setting and administered in July and August 2013.~~

~~(v) (ee) Effective March 1, 2014, the passing score for the new Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 subtests listed below shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered in July and August 2013:~~

- ~~1. Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 Subtest 1: Developmental Knowledge: thirty-eight (38) correct items.~~
- ~~2. Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 Subtest 2: Language Arts and Reading: forty-one (41) correct items.~~
- ~~3. Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 Subtest 3: Mathematics: thirty-two (32) correct items.~~

4. Prekindergarten/Primary PK-3 Subtest 4: Science: thirty (30) correct items.

(w) Effective January 1, 2015, the passing score for the new Elementary Education K-6 subtests listed below shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered in May 2014:

1. Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading: forty-two (42) correct items.

2. Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 2: Social Science: thirty-seven (37) correct items.

3. Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 3: Science: thirty-six (36) correct items.

4. Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 4: Mathematics: thirty-five (35) correct items.

(x) Effective January 1, 2015, the passing score for the new English 6-12 and Middle Grades English 5-9 multiple-choice sections shall be a scaled score of at least two hundred (200). The passing score for the writing sections shall be a total raw score of at least eight (8). This scaled score shall be equivalent to the following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered between March and June 2014:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>English 6-12</u>	<u>56 correct items on the multiple-choice section and a total raw score of at least eight (8) on the writing section</u>
<u>Middle Grades English 5-9</u>	<u>58 correct items on the multiple-choice section and a total raw score of at least eight (8) on the writing section</u>

(y) Effective January 1, 2015, the passing score 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 following raw scores on the test forms used for standard setting and administered between April and June 2014:

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
<u>Computer Science K-12</u>	<u>85 correct items</u>
<u>Technology Education 6-12</u>	<u>89 correct items</u>

(z) ~~(ff)~~ 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 test 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.

(10) through (11) No change.

Rulemaking Authority 1012.55(1), 1012.56, 1012.59 FS. Law Implemented 1012.55, 1012.56, 1012.59 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, 8-10-92, 11-28-93, 4-12-95, 7-1-96, 9-30-96, 10-1-99, 7-17-00, 7-16-01, 3-24-02, 7-16-02, 3-24-03, 7-21-03, 12-23-03, 7-13-04, 5-24-05, 5-23-06, 5-21-07, 5-19-08, 7-21-08, 7-9-09, 6-22-10, 6-21-11, 11-22-11, 8-23-12, 5-21-13, 10-22-13, 2-25-14.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

# **SBE Rule 6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) Rule Changes**

State Board of Education

November 18, 2014

# Florida Teacher Certification Examinations November 2014 Rule Updates

- Adopt “Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition,” which includes updated competencies and skills for the Spanish K–12 and Business Education 6–12 examinations.
- Adopt new passing scores for selected examinations.
- Adopt new fee structures for selected examinations.

## FTCE Changes: Passing Scores - I

- November 2014 Recommendations for Passing Scores:
  - **General Knowledge (GK) Test** (*examinees must pass all 4 subtests*)
    - **GK Subtest 1: Essay**
    - **GK Subtest 2: English Language Skills**
    - **GK Subtest 3: Reading**
    - **GK Subtest 4: Mathematics**

## FTCE Changes: Passing Scores - II

- November 2014 Recommendations for Passing Scores:
  - **Elementary Education K–6** (*examinees must pass all 4 subtests*)
    - **Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading**
    - **Subtest 2: Social Science**
    - **Subtest 3: Science**
    - **Subtest 4: Mathematics**

## FTCE Changes: Passing Scores - III

- November 2014 Recommendations for Passing Scores:
  - **Computer Science K–12**
  - **English 6–12**
    - *New test scoring format: multiple-choice and writing sections; examinees must pass both sections independently.*
  - **Middle Grades English 5–9**
    - *New test scoring format: multiple-choice and writing sections; examinees must pass both sections independently.*
  - **Technology Education 6–12**

## **FTCE Changes: Proposed English 6–12 and Middle Grades English 5–9 Test Format and Fee Structures**

- Allows examinees not passing a single section of the examination to register and take only the section not passed.
- Provides a reduced fee for taking a single section of the two-section examination.

## New Fee Structures for English 6–12 and Middle Grades English 5–9

Testing Format	Fee
First-Time Registration Full Battery	\$200
Retake Single Section Registration	\$150
Retake Full Battery Registration	\$220

**Note:** First-time examinees must register for full battery for their first attempt.

## Passing Scores

- Changes to Passing Scores Impact:
  - Student matriculation (*e.g., college enrollment, academic progress*)
  - Initial Certification: passing scores are required for the subject area examinations and the General Knowledge Test (all subtests)
  - Employment within Florida public schools
  - Diversity of Certified Educators
    - (*e.g., African American, Hispanic, White*)

## Analysis of Committee Recommendations

- The Office of Assessment analyzed the committee recommendations considering
  - pass rates,
  - test form difficulty,
  - subgroup performance, and
  - potential impacts on certification needs.
- Using the appropriate measurement and psychometric guidelines, the following passing score recommendations were made.

# Final Recommendations for Passing Scores:

## I. General Knowledge Test

Subtest	Recommended Number Correct	Recommended Percentage Correct
General Knowledge Test Subtest 1: Essay	8/12	67%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 2: English Language Skills	27/40	68%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 3: Reading	26/38	68%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 4: Mathematics	31/45	69%

**Note:** The GK Essay is holistically scored by two human raters using a scoring rubric of 1–6 range. The GK Essay score is the sum of the two ratings.

## Final Recommendations for Passing Scores: II. Elementary Education K–6

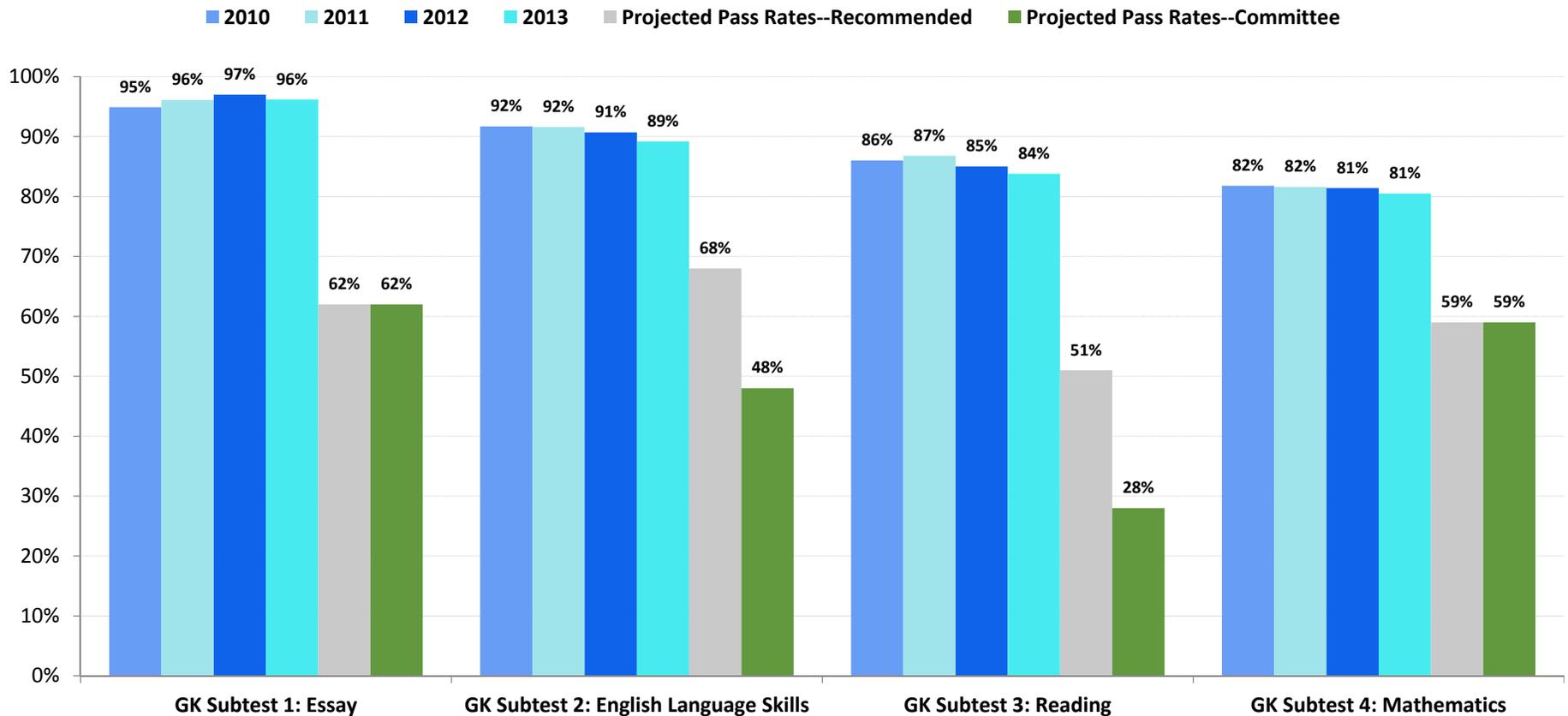
Subtest	Recommended Number Correct	Recommended Percentage Correct
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading	42/60	70%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 2: Social Science	37/54	69%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 3: Science	36/54	67%
Elementary Education K–6 Subtest 4: Mathematics	35/50	70%

## Final Recommendations for Passing Scores: III. Other Subject Area Examinations

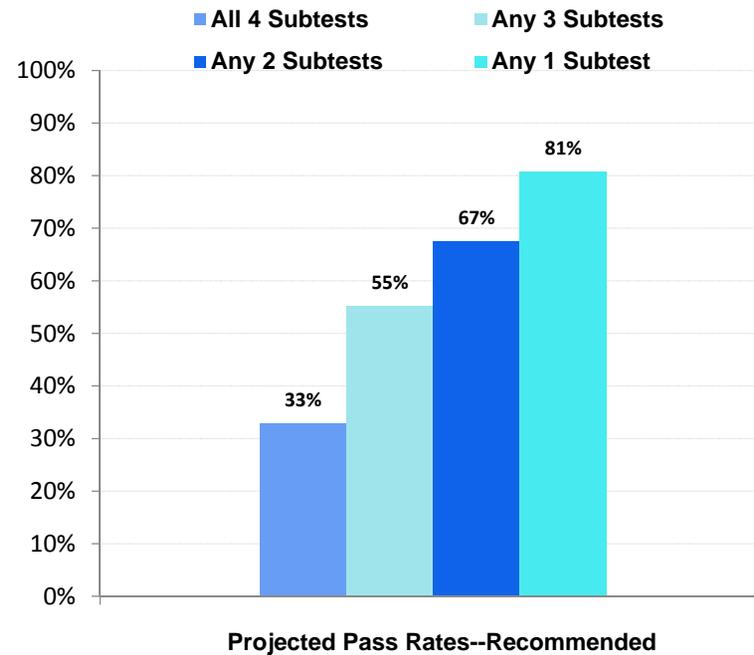
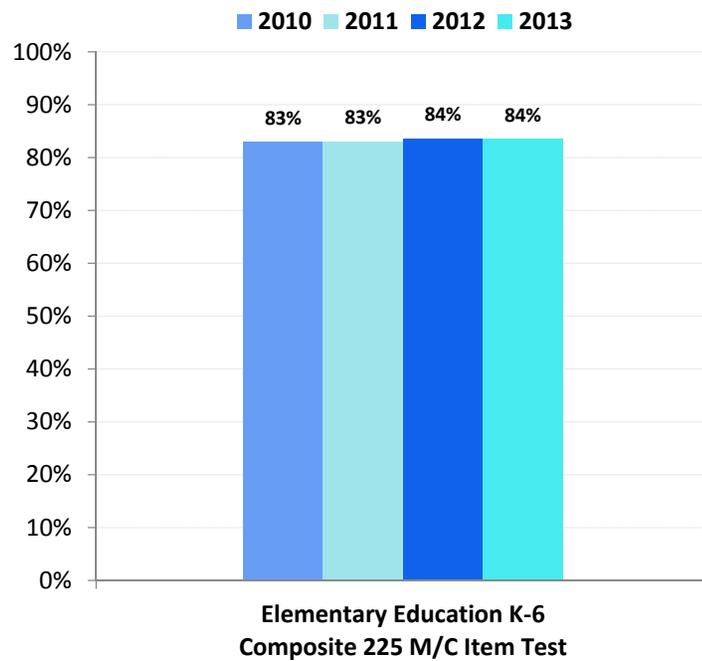
FTCE Examination	Recommended Number Correct	Recommended Percentage Correct
Computer Science K–12	85/120	71%
English 6–12 (Multiple Choice-MC & Writing Sections)	MC 56/80 & Writing 8/12	70% & 67%
Middle Grades English 5–9 (Multiple Choice-MC & Writing Sections)	MC 58/80 & Writing 8/12	73% & 67%
Technology Education 6–12	89/120	74%

**Note:** English 6–12 and Middle Grades English 5–9 are currently scored as weighted composite examinations (MC 70% and Writing 30%). MC: Multiple Choice section.

# Historical Examinee Pass Rates: I. General Knowledge (GK) Test *(First-Time Examinees 2010–2013)*



# Historical Examinee Pass Rates: II. Elementary Education K–6 *(First-Time Examinees 2010–2013)*

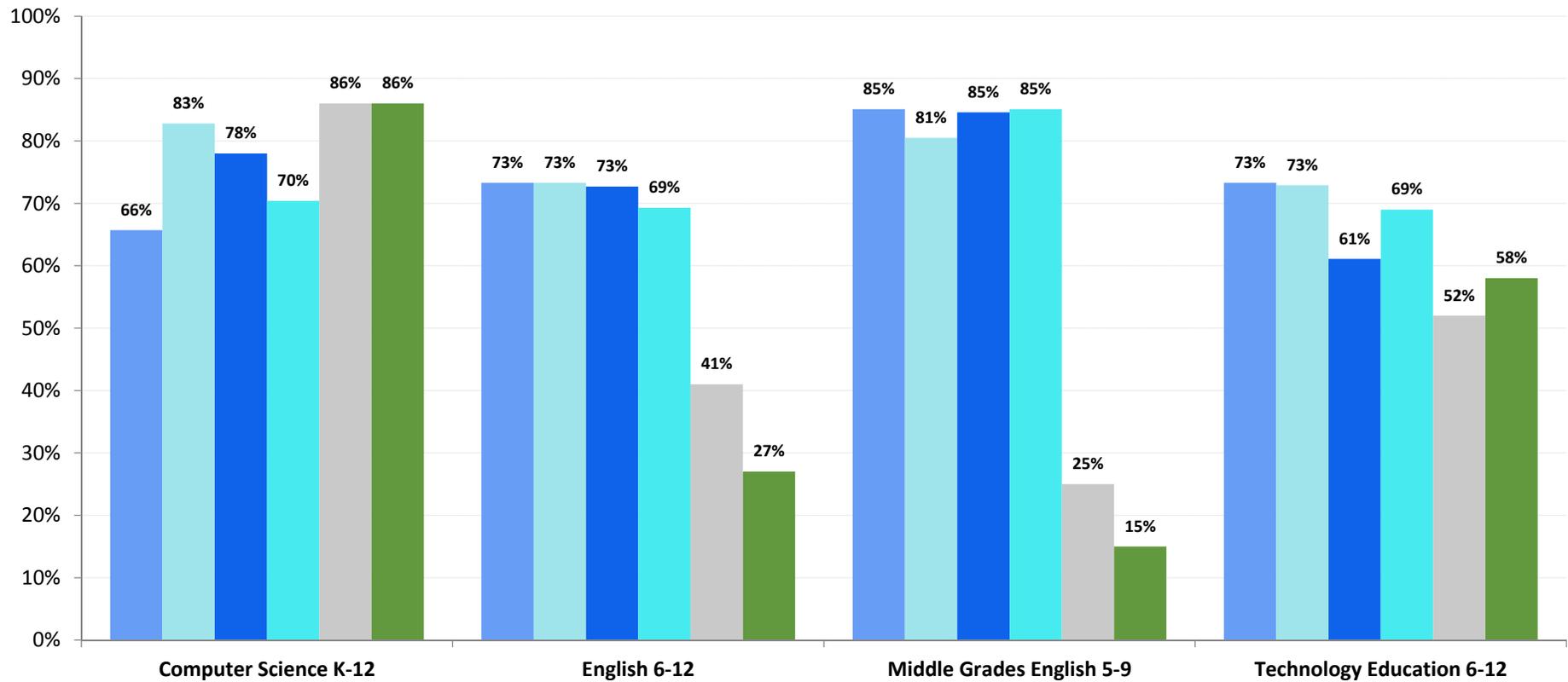


Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading (60 MC Items)  
Subtest 3: Science (54 MC Items)

Subtest 2: Social Science (54 MC Items)  
Subtest 4: Mathematics (50 MC Items)

# Historical Examinee Pass Rates: III. Other Subject Area Examinations (First-Time Examinees 2010–2013)

■ 2010 ■ 2011 ■ 2012 ■ 2013 ■ Projected Pass Rates--Recommended ■ Projected Pass Rates--Committee



# Impact Data and Passing Rates by Subgroups:

## I. General Knowledge

Subtest	Linked (Current) Passing Score	Recommended Passing Score	Subgroup	Linked (Current) Passing Rates		Projected Passing Rates	
				N	%	N	%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 1: Essay	6/12 (50%)	8/12 (67%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>62%</b>
			Female	636	96%	636	64%
			Male	245	95%	245	58%
			Black	123	90%	123	50%
			Caucasian	539	98%	539	69%
			Hispanic	158	92%	158	50%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 2: English Language Skills	20/40 (50%)	27/40 (68%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>68%</b>
			Female	826	92%	826	66%
			Male	321	96%	321	72%
			Black	166	81%	166	52%
			Caucasian	683	97%	683	76%
			Hispanic	209	91%	209	54%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 3: Reading	18/38 (47%)	26/38 (68%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>51%</b>
			Female	820	87%	820	50%
			Male	318	92%	318	53%
			Black	170	71%	170	31%
			Caucasian	680	94%	680	60%
			Hispanic	199	86%	199	37%
General Knowledge Test Subtest 4: Mathematics	22/45 (49%)	31/45 (69%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>59%</b>
			Female	836	87%	836	55%
			Male	322	92%	322	69%
			Black	178	75%	178	38%
			Caucasian	682	94%	682	67%
			Hispanic	207	82%	207	51%

N: Number of first-time examinees tested. Pass rates were not included for N less than 30 examinees (NA).

**Note:** Current and projected passing rates were calculated for the first-time examinees taking the base forms in May 2014 for all subtests.

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# Impact Data and Passing Rates by Subgroups:

## II. Elementary Education K–6

Subtest	Linked (Current) Passing Score	Recommended Passing Score	Subgroup	Linked (Current) Passing Rates		Projected Passing Rates	
				N	%	N	%
Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 1: Language Arts and Reading	31/60 (52%)	42/60 (70%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>55%</b>
			Female	264	91%	264	58%
			Male	31	84%	31	29%
			Black	27	NA	27	NA
			Caucasian	213	94%	213	56%
			Hispanic	29	NA	29	NA
Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 2: Social Science	28/54 (52%)	37/54 (69%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>59%</b>
			Female	264	93%	264	56%
			Male	31	94%	31	71%
			Black	27	NA	27	NA
			Caucasian	213	94%	213	62%
			Hispanic	29	NA	29	NA
Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 3: Science	28/54 (52%)	36/54 (67%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>64%</b>
			Female	264	91%	264	62%
			Male	31	90%	31	74%
			Black	27	NA	27	NA
			Caucasian	213	95%	213	68%
			Hispanic	29	NA	29	NA
Elementary Education K-6 Subtest 4: Mathematics	25/50 (50%)	35/50 (70%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>58%</b>
			Female	264	90%	264	59%
			Male	31	90%	31	48%
			Black	27	NA	27	NA
			Caucasian	213	92%	213	61%
			Hispanic	29	NA	29	NA

N: Number of first-time examinees tested. Pass rates were not included for N less than 30 examinees (NA).

**Note:** Current and projected passing rates were calculated for the first-time examinees taking the base forms in May 2014 for all subtests.

# Impact Data and Passing Rates by Subgroups:

## III. Other Subject Area Examinations

FTCE Examination	Linked (Current) Passing Score	Recommended Passing Score	Subgroup	Linked (Current) Passing Rates		Projected Passing Rates	
				N	%	N	%
Computer Science K-12	75/120 (63%)	85/120 (71%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>86%</b>
			Female	5	NA	5	NA
			Male	2	NA	2	NA
			Black	0	NA	0	NA
			Caucasian	5	NA	5	NA
			Hispanic	0	NA	0	NA
English 6-12	Weighted Composite Score (MC 70% & Writing 30%)	MC 56/80 (70%) Writing 8/12 (67%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>41%</b>
			Female	318	67%	318	40%
			Male	87	75%	87	46%
			Black	30	50%	30	20%
			Caucasian	264	73%	264	44%
			Hispanic	65	60%	65	35%
Middle Grades English 5-9	Weighted Composite Score (MC 70% & Writing 30%)	MC 58/80 (73%) Writing 8/12 (67%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>25%</b>
			Female	120	82%	120	27%
			Male	24	NA	24	NA
			Black	27	NA	27	NA
			Caucasian	87	89%	87	31%
			Hispanic	15	NA	15	NA
Technology Education 6-12	74/120 (62%)	89/120 (74%)	<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>52%</b>
			Female	20	NA	20	NA
			Male	13	NA	13	NA
			Black	0	NA	0	NA
			Caucasian	28	NA	28	NA
			Hispanic	4	NA	4	NA

N: Number of first-time examinees tested. Pass rates were not included for N less than 30 examinees (NA). MC: Multiple Choice section.

**Note:** Current and projected passing rates were calculated for the first-time examinees taking the base forms from April to June, 2014 for Computer Science K-12 and Technology Education, March, April, and June 2014 for English 6-12, March to May, 2014 for MG English 5-9.



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