

To: Education Department Deans and Chairs

From: Sharron V. Nelson, PhD.  
Director, Bureau of Teacher Certification and Preparation

RE: Basic Skills Testing – Composite Score Capacity

Professional Educator Testing Memorandum #09

Effective September 15, 2005, students/candidates (in-state and out-of-state) being recommended for a Pa. Instructional I in any subject area can meet the Praxis I (PPST I), Basic Skills testing requirements through either of the following:

- I. The present individual PPST I, Basic Skills score requirements:
  - Mathematics, Test #730, (score of 173)
  - Reading, Test #710, (score of 172)
  - Writing, Test #720, (score of 173)
  - Current Total required = 518
  
- II. In addition, *a second method of accomplishing the basic skills testing requirements* will now be available through achieving a composite/summary test score of 521, provided that the following individual PPST I test scores are met:
  - Mathematics - Score of 171 minimum
  - Reading - Score of 171 minimum
  - Writing - Score of 170 minimum
  - Current Total required = 521

*For example an individual with strong math skills may have scored 178 in the PPST Math, a score of 172 in Reading and a score of 171 in Writing. This student would meet the Praxis I composite test requirement as the composite score of 521 was met and no individual test score was under the required minimum.*

- III. Any Instructional I application received after September 15, 2005 can choose to use the traditional –OR– Composite Score method, provided the listed minimums (see item II above) are accomplished in each basic skill area: Reading, Writing, and Mathematics and the composite total of 521 is also reached.
  
- IV. As was the case in the past, test scores remain effective as long as they have been achieved within 5 years of the date of the receipt of the application for Instructional I.

***Effective 1/1/09 as emailed 3/13/09 by Jonetta Johnson from PDE***

Test ID	Test Name	Qualifying Score	New Minimum
0710/5710	PPST Reading	172	169
0720/5720	PPST Writing	173	170
0730/5730	PPST Mathematics	173	170
	Composite Score		521