

Transmittal Memo

To: Undergraduate Council

From: Joanne Arhar

Re: Change in Praxis I Cutoff Scores for Teacher Education Programs

Date: May 5, 2009

Summary Statement: Proposal to change the policy on cutoff scores on Praxis I Writing and Reading as a requirement for admission to advanced study in teacher education programs to make them consistent with the 25th percentile for the past three years.

Undergraduate Catalog will be changed to reflect new cutoff scores.

Teacher Education Coordinators approved of this action on Friday, May 1, 2009. Coordinators represent all programs in the university who offer teacher licensure as an option through EHHS.

Proposal Summary

Title: Change in policy on cutoff scores for Praxis I Reading and Writing

Subject Specification: Praxis I Reading will change from 175 to 174 and Praxis I Writing will change from 175 to 174. This affects all teacher education majors in EHHS and College of the Arts and minors in education.

Background Information: The cut scores have been set at the 25th percentile for Praxis I for admission to advanced study. Every few years the cut scores are reviewed to determine if they are still at the 25th percentile. A subcommittee of the teacher education coordinators suggested that we look at what the cut scores would be at the 25th percentile over a period of three years: 2005-2006; 2006-2007; 2007-2008. The Research Bureau conducted the analysis and recommended that we lower the reading and writing test cutoffs. The effect will be that more students will pass the test on the first try.

Alternatives: The alternative is that we use the Ohio Conditional Licensure cut scores. But faculty wanted a stronger, Kent based rationale that we could apply to our own students. Although there are already alternatives to Praxis I (cut scores are set for ACT and SAT and Compass), the suggestion was made to use course grades as another alternative. A standardized test seemed more appropriate for our purposes.

Time table: This action was unanimously approved at the May 1, 2009 meeting of the teacher education coordinators. New cut scores would apply for those students applying for advanced study in Spring 2010.

Proposed cutoff based on 25th percentile for past three years for Praxis I Exams (2005-2008)

	KSU Current Cutoff <i>% passed 1st try</i>	Proposed Cutoff <i>% passed 1st try</i>	Ohio Conditional Licensure Cutoff <i>% passed 1st try</i>	U of Akron Cutoff (06-07)
Writing	173 <i>68%</i>	172 <i>78%</i>	172 <i>78%</i>	172
Math	174 <i>82%</i>	174 <i>82%</i>	172 <i>88%</i>	172
Reading	175 <i>65%</i>	174 <i>73%</i>	173 <i>73%</i>	173

- Have you ever had a criminal conviction sealed or expunged?
- Have you ever had a teaching credential limited, suspended or revoked?
- Have you ever surrendered a teaching credential?

Any students in the College of Education, Health, and Human Services who cannot attest to the above should immediately contact a program counselor in the College of Education, Health, and Human Services, Vacca Office of Student Services, 304 White Hall, 330-672-2862. Falsification of information is grounds for dismissal and non-licensure.

This affidavit must be completed and witnessed by a Student Services staff member in the College of Education, Health, and Human Services Student Services office or an appropriate representative from the Regional Campuses and placed on file in 304 White Hall.

Pre-advanced Study Coursework

Minimum of C or better in EDPF 29535 Education in a Democratic Society and C or better in one of the following:

- *ITEC 19525 Educational Technology
- *EDPF 29525 Educational Psychology
- SPED 23000 Introduction to Exceptionalities

*Prerequisite is EDPF 29535 Education in a Democratic Society. A minimum grade of C (2.00) or better must be earned in all of the above courses.

Please note: Speech pathology and audiology majors are not required to take these courses.

The following courses must be completed with minimum C (2.00) grade for early childhood, middle childhood and intervention specialist majors ONLY:

- MATH 14001 Basic Math Concepts I
- MATH 14002 Basic Math Concepts II

Early childhood and middle childhood majors are required to complete additional pre-advanced study courses with specified minimum grades. These majors should refer to the advising sheets for the course information.

Standardized Testing

All teacher education majors and minors are required to demonstrate basic competencies in reading, writing and mathematics before progressing in a degree program. Students are required to take the Praxis I if they have not adequately demonstrated the competencies through the ACT, SAT and/or COMPASS exams. Students may take the written or computer-based version of Praxis I. Information regarding Praxis I is available in the Vacca

Office of Student Services, 304 White Hall, in the student services offices of the Regional Campuses and on the Vacca Office of Student Services' Web site: www.ehhs.kent.edu/OSS/. The specific competencies are listed below:

Reading

Students must satisfy one of the following options:

- ACT reading score of 26
- SAT verbal score of 620
- COMPASS reading score of 93
- Praxis I reading score of ~~175~~ 174

Writing

Students must satisfy one of the following options:

- ACT English score of 25
- COMPASS writing score of 92
- Praxis I writing score of ~~173~~ 172

Mathematics

Students must satisfy one of the following options:

- ACT math score of 25
- SAT math score of 620
- Praxis I math score of 174

Please note: Students must have all passing standardized test scores on file in 304 White Hall prior to submission of application for admission to advanced study.

Please note: The COMPASS placement test is administered to all incoming first-year students during the Placement, Advising and Scheduling System (PASS) program. It is taken solely for placement into freshman-level courses and cannot be taken for any other purpose.

Application for Admission to Advanced Study

Upon completion of 30-60 hours of coursework, students should have satisfied the professional requirements for admission to advanced study. **Students must complete an application for advanced study and submit it to 304 White Hall by the second Friday of the term during which all professional requirements for advanced study will be completed. The application must be submitted at least one semester before the term you plan to start upper-division professional coursework.** Applications are available in the Vacca Office of Student Services, 304 White Hall, in Regional Campus offices or on the Vacca Office of Student Services' Web site at www.ehhs.kent.edu/OSS/. **Teacher education majors and minors must be officially admitted to advanced study to take upper-division professional coursework.**

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATION OF CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Preparation Date 29-May-09 Curriculum Bulletin _____

Effective Date Spring 2010 Approved by EPC _____

Department EHHS
College EH - Education, Health and Human Services
Degree BSE - Bachelor of Science in Education
Program Name _____ Program Code _____
Concentration(s) _____ Concentration(s) Code(s) _____
Proposal Revise Program Policy

Description of proposal:

Changes Praxis I cutoff scores to the following: Writing 172, Reading 174, and Math 174

Does proposed revision change program's total credit hours? Yes No

Current total credit hours: _____ Proposed total credit hours _____

Describe impact on other programs, policies or procedures (e.g., encroachment and duplication issues; enrollment and staffing considerations; need; audience; prerequisites; teacher education licensure):

Units consulted (other departments, programs or campuses affected by this proposal):

REQUIRED ENDORSEMENTS

Joanne Arhan (Dir of Teacher Ed) 5/29/09
Department Chair / School Director / Campus Dean

Joanne Arhan 5/29/09
College Dean

Executive Dean of Regional Campuses / Dean of Graduate Studies / /

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost / /