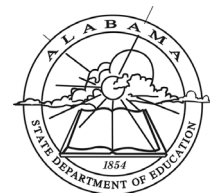




STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

July 27, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Modification of Required Praxis Subject Assessments and Scores as a Precondition for Certification

On June 11, 2026, members of the Alabama State Board of Education (SBOE) approved a resolution to adopt certain Praxis assessments as a precondition for certification. The resolution includes new Praxis assessments to replace current Praxis assessments that are expiring.

The following chart provides the names and codes for new Praxis assessments that are replacing current assessments, along with information that will be used for implementation. The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) Assessment Policies Manuals are also being updated to reflect these changes.

New Assessment Name and Code	Required Score for New Assessment	Effective Date	Assessment to be Discontinued Name and Code	Required Score for Discontinued Assessments	Final Assessment Administration Date
Early Childhood Education: Foundational Knowledge 5533 <i>*Required for the Birth-Age 4 Approach.</i>	156	09/01/2026	Pre-Kindergarten Education 5531	155	08/31/2026
Middle School Social Studies 5589	149	09/01/2026	Middle School Social Studies 5089	153	08/31/2026

Scores on discontinued assessments earned **after August 31, 2026, will not be accepted.**

The guidelines below should be followed regarding the assessment changes for *General Social Science (Grades 4-8)*.

Alabama State-Approved Educator Preparation Program Approach

Individuals seeking initial certification through an **Alabama Educator Preparation Program Approach**:

Discontinued Assessment:

- Individuals **must be unconditionally admitted** to an Alabama Educator Preparation Program **prior to September 1, 2026**.
- Assessment **must** be taken and passed prior to **September 1, 2026**.
- Application **must be received** in the Educator Certification Section **within 48 months** of the date of unconditional admission.
- If application **is not received** in the Educator Certification Section within 48 months of the date of unconditional admission, a passing score on the **new assessment is required**.

New Assessment:

- **Must** be taken and passed **September 1, 2026, and thereafter**.
- **May** be taken and passed prior to the effective date in lieu of the expiring assessment.

Provisional Certificate in a Teaching Field (PCTF) Approach
Conditional Certificate in a Teaching Field (CCTF) Approach

Individuals issued a 1st PCTF or 1st CCTF **for the 2026-2027 scholastic year**:

Discontinued Assessment:

- **Must** be taken and passed prior to **September 1, 2026**.
- Application for the Professional Educator Certificate **must be received** in the Educator Certification Section **on or before October 1, 2030**.

New Assessment:

- **Must** be taken and passed **September 1, 2026, and thereafter**.
- **May** be taken and passed prior to the effective date in lieu of the expiring assessment.

Individuals issued a 1st PCTF or 1st CCTF **for the 2027-2028 scholastic year and thereafter**:

- New assessment **is required**.
- Discontinued assessment **cannot be used**.

Other Certification Approaches

Individuals seeking initial certification through all approaches **other than an Alabama Educator Preparation Program, PCTF, or CCTF**:

Discontinued Assessment:

- **Must** be taken and passed prior to **September 1, 2026**.
- Application **must be received** in the Educator Certification Section **on or before March 1, 2027** (six months after assessment expiration).

- If application is **not received** in the Educator Certification Section on or before March 1, 2027, a passing score on the **new assessment is required**.

New Assessment:

- **Must** be taken and passed **September 1, 2026, and thereafter**.
- **May** be taken and passed prior to the effective date in lieu of the expiring assessment.

Early Childhood Development (Birth-Age 4) Approach

The guidelines below should be followed regarding the assessment changes for **Early Childhood Development (Birth-Age 4)**:

Did the individual earn the required score on Praxis 5531—Pre-Kindergarten Education on or before August 31, 2026?

- If the answer is **NO**, the **new assessment is required** to meet Early Childhood Development testing requirements.
- If the answer is **YES**, proceed to the questions below.

What date did the individual begin his or her first early childhood development course for the Early Childhood Development program?

- This date will be used as the “**date of unconditional admission**” to the Early Childhood Development program. Apply this information to the next question.

Will the Early Childhood Development application be received in the Educator Certification Section of the ALSDE within 48 months of the date of unconditional admission?

- If the application is **received** within 48 months of the date of unconditional admission, the **discontinued test may be used**.
- If the application is **not received** within 48 months of the date of unconditional admission, the **new assessment is required**.

For additional information regarding Praxis test modifications, please contact Ms. Stacy Monroe, Assessment Coordinator, at 334-694-4594.

EGM:SM

cc: Deans of Education
Mrs. Angela Martin
Ms. Shavon Harris
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FY26-2049