



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

July 8, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Modification of Required Foundational Reading Assessment as a Precondition for Initial Certification

On March 11, 2021, members of the Alabama State Board of Education (SBOE) adopted a new foundational reading assessment, Foundations of Reading 190, a Massachusetts foundational reading assessment administered by the Evaluation Systems Group of Pearson. This assessment will replace Praxis #5205 Teaching Reading Elementary, the current foundational reading assessment used in Alabama.

On December 13, 2021, an Alabama Standard-Setting Study comprised of Alabama educators was conducted for Foundations of Reading 190. The study yielded a recommended passing score of 233. This recommendation was approved by the SBOE on April 14, 2022.

Effective September 1, 2022, Foundations of Reading 190 will be required as a precondition for initial certification in the areas of Early Childhood Education (P-3), Elementary Education (K-6), and Collaborative Special Education (K-6). The subsequent charts will provide additional information regarding the implementation of Foundations of Reading 190. The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) Assessment Policies Manual will be updated to reflect this information prior to implementation:

1. Individuals unconditionally admitted to an approved **Class B or Alternative Class A program in Early Childhood Education or Elementary Education at an Alabama Educator Preparation Provider (EPP):**

Area of Certification	Current Required Content Area Assessments	Foundational Reading Assessment	Foundational Reading Assessment
	(will also be required September 1, 2022, and Thereafter)	(for individuals unconditionally admitted Prior to September 1, 2022)	(for individuals unconditionally admitted September 1, 2022, and Thereafter)
Early Childhood (P-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Praxis #5025 Early Childhood Education •The edTPA Early Childhood Education Handbook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Praxis #5205 Teaching Reading: Elementary <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Foundations of Reading 190 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Foundations of Reading 190
Elementary (K-6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Praxis #5901 Elementary Education (includes Praxis #5903, #5904, and #5905)* •The edTPA Elementary Education Handbook 		

*Praxis #5003, #5004, and/or #5005 may be substituted for the corresponding subtest(s) of Praxis #5901.

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2. Individuals unconditionally admitted to an approved **Class B or Alternative Class A** program in **Collaborative Special Education (K-6)** at an Alabama EPP:

Area of Certification	Current Required Content Area Assessments (will also be required September 1, 2022, and Thereafter)	Reading Assessment (for individuals unconditionally admitted to an EPP prior to September 1, 2020)	Foundational Reading Assessment (for individuals unconditionally admitted to an EPP between September 1, 2020, and August 31, 2022)	Foundational Reading Assessment (for individuals unconditionally admitted September 1, 2022, and Thereafter)
Collaborative Special Education (K-6) **	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5901 Elementary Education (includes Praxis #5903, #5904, and #5905) * • Praxis #5354 Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications • The edTPA Special Education Handbook 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5002 Elementary English Language Arts <li style="text-align: center;">OR • Praxis #5205 Teaching Reading: Elementary <li style="text-align: center;">OR • Foundations of Reading 190 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5205 Teaching Reading Elementary <li style="text-align: center;">OR • Foundations of Reading 190 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of Reading 190

* Praxis #5003, #5004, and/or #5005 may be substituted for the corresponding subtest(s) of Praxis #5901.

For *Collaborative Special Education K-6*, Praxis #5901, Praxis #5205, **nor Foundations of Reading 190 (as applicable) are required if the individual holds a valid Alabama Professional Educator Certificate in Elementary Education, Grades K-6.

3. **All other certification approaches** that require assessments to be met as a precondition for certification.

Area of Certification	Current Required Content Area Assessments (will also be required September 1, 2022, and Thereafter)	Foundational Reading Assessment (for applications received prior to September 1, 2022)	Foundational Reading Assessment (for applications received September 1, 2022, and Thereafter)
Collaborative Special Education Teacher (K-6) **	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5901 Elementary Education (includes Praxis #5903, #5904, and #5905) * • Praxis #5354 Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5205 Teaching Reading: Elementary <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of Reading 190
Early Childhood (P-3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5025 Early Childhood Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundations of Reading 190 	
Elementary (K-6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praxis #5901 Elementary Education (includes Praxis #5903, #5904, and #5905)* 		
<p>For those applying based on the Foreign Credentials Approach, in addition to the assessments outlined above, a passing score on Praxis #5622 Principles of Learning and Teaching: K-6 must also be attained.</p>			

* Praxis #5003, #5004, and/or #5005 may be substituted for the corresponding subtest(s) of Praxis #5901.
For *Collaborative Special Education K-6*, Praxis #5901, Praxis #5205 **nor Foundations of Reading 190 (as applicable) are required if the individual holds a valid Alabama Professional Educator Certificate in Elementary Education, Grades K-6.

For additional information regarding this foundational reading assessment change, please contact Dr. Deanise F. Peacock, Assessment Administrator, at dpeacock@alsde.edu.

EGM/DFP/HMS

cc: Deans of Education
Mrs. Angela Martin
Ms. Shavon Y. Harris
Dr. Deanise F. Peacock

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