



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 8d
June 16, 2014

Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

June 16, 2014

TO: Members of the R.I. Board of Education

FROM: Deborah A. Gist, Commissioner 

RE: Approval of the Certification Test Updates

The Rhode Island Board of Education’s Regulations Governing the Certification of Educators in Rhode Island requires RIDE to seek Board approval to adopt new or revised certification tests and passing scores required for initial licensure.

Educational Testing Service (ETS) provides most R.I. licensure tests and has regenerated two tests to ensure currency with the field. RIDE staff has reviewed the standard setting process and the public comment received. The passing scores represented in the chart were recommended in the multi-state standard setting study. The two regenerated tests and the recommended passing scores are provided in the chart.

| Revised Test | Recommended Passing Score |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Middle School Science (5440) | 150 |
| Speech-Language Pathology (5331) | 162 |

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Rhode Island Board of Education approves the revised tests above with the recommended passing scores, as presented.



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Public Comment Summary

RIDE requested permission from the Board of Education to seek public comment on the tests identified below. Public comment opened on April 14, 2014 and closed on May 14, 2014. There was one comment received. A summary of public comment is provided in the chart.

| Test | Comment |
|--|--|
| Middle School Science (5440) Passing Score 150 | No Comment |
| Speech-Language Pathology (5331) Passing Score 162 | 1 Comment The individual commented that in order to become ASHA (American Speech-Hearing-Association) certified in order to graduate from an accredited SLP (Speech Language Pathology) program (master's level), individuals must pass the same ETS Praxis test. It is the same test required by ASHA. The educator also commented that the Praxis test content has little to do with a SLP's degree of competency when performing the daily roles and responsibilities of a SLP working in RI public schools. The educator noted that if RIDE wants to improve an SLP's performance specific to the roles/responsibilities of working in a RHODE ISLAND public school, RIDE should provide training for SLPs working in RI public schools because no graduate program addresses in detail. |