April 2, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: County and City Superintendents of Education
    Deans of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice
      State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Alternative Class A Unconditional Admission Requirements

Rule 290-3-3-.44(3), on pages 374-377 of the Teacher Education Chapter of the Alabama Administrative Code, provides the options for meeting the general studies and teaching field requirements for unconditional admission to Alternative Class A programs. This memorandum is to advise you of changes in the Praxis II test options for unconditional admission to an Alternative A program.

Effective for candidates who are unconditionally admitted on or after September 1, 2013, passing scores on all four subtests of Praxis II 5031 Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects may be used in lieu of the 4x12 for both general studies and teaching field requirements for unconditional admission to an Alternative Class A program in elementary education, collaborative teacher (K-6), AND collaborative teacher (6-12).

Effective for candidates who are unconditionally admitted on or after September 1, 2013, only Praxis II 0022/5022 Early Childhood: Content Knowledge may be used in lieu of the 4x12 requirement to meet both general studies and teaching field requirements for unconditional admission to an Alternative Class A program in Early Childhood Education and/or Early Childhood Special Education.

If a candidate enrolls in two Alternative Class A programs for which unconditional admission requirements are different, the candidate must meet requirements for unconditional admission to each program.

Rule 290-3-3-.44(3)(d)5. states that applicants for unconditional admission to P-12 Alternative Class A programs may meet teaching field requirements through an academic major or 32 semester hours of credit appropriate to the teaching field, including at least 19 semester hours of upper-division credit. For admission to an Alternative Class A English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program, institutions may accept credit for courses in English language arts, one or more languages other than English, linguistics, or other areas that have been approved as ESOL-equivalent courses. If the testing option [290-3-3-.44(3)(d)1.] is used, the applicant must verify a current passing score on Praxis II 0361: English to Speakers of Other Languages.

TRB/JAM/JSG

cc: Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris
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