September 18, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: County and City Superintendents of Education
    Deans of Education

FROM: Thomas R. Bice  
    State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program (AECTP) Change to Elementary Education Praxis II Test(s)

This memorandum is to advise you of certain changes to the Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program (AECTP) as approved by the Alabama State Board of Education on August 13, 2014.

1. Praxis II Test Changes

Through the Praxis program, Education Testing Services (ETS) continually updates tests to better measure what teachers need to know and would be able to do within each teaching field. Therefore, Praxis II content knowledge tests previously approved by the Alabama State Board of Education have recently been updated and revised.

The following chart reflects Praxis II updates and revisions for elementary education. The chart provides the new Praxis II test names and test codes, the required passing scores, and effective dates. In addition, the chart provides the discontinued Praxis II test names, test codes, passing scores, final test administration for which scores will be accepted, and the expiration date for acceptance. The tests are subject to the Test Discontinuation Policy of the Alabama State Department of Education for acceptance as shown in the last column.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Test Code &amp; Test Name</th>
<th>Required Score for New Test</th>
<th>New Test &amp; Test Score Effective Date</th>
<th>Test To Be Discontinued Code &amp; Name</th>
<th>Required Score for Discontinued Test</th>
<th>Final Test Administration Date by Which Discontinued Test &amp; Score Accepted</th>
<th>Expiration Date for Acceptance of Discontinued Test &amp; Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>09/1/2015</td>
<td>Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5031)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>08/31/2015</td>
<td>09/1/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading and Language Arts Subtest (5002)</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>09/1/2015</td>
<td>Reading and Language Arts Subtest (5032)</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>08/31/2015</td>
<td>09/1/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics Subtest (5003)</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>09/1/2015</td>
<td>Mathematics Subtest (5033)</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>08/31/2015</td>
<td>09/1/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies Subtest (5004)</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>09/1/2015</td>
<td>Social Studies Subtest (5034)</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>08/31/2015</td>
<td>09/1/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Subtest (5005)</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>09/1/2015</td>
<td>Science Subtest (5035)</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>08/31/2015</td>
<td>09/1/2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Praxis II Testing Changes and Certification**

Applicants must meet all certification requirements for the selected approach to certification in effect on the receipt date of the application. The AECTP testing change is effective September 1, 2015. Therefore, the discontinued Praxis II test listed, if taken after the final administration date of August 31, 2015, will not meet certification requirements.
Applicants must have a passing score in each of the four Praxis II Elementary Education subtests: Reading and Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Applicants who take the subtest series of Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5031 and do not earn a passing score on each subtest prior to September 1, 2015, must take the matching subtest title of the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5001 series as indicated in the table above. If the discontinued Praxis II tests indicated in the table above are taken after the final administration date of August 31, 2015, the Alabama State Department of Education will not accept the Praxis II score(s) to meet certification requirements.

Please advise your candidates that the combination of scores from Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5031 and Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5001 that will be accepted by the ALSDE, as indicated above, may limit their portability as other states may not recognize a combination of the scores. If candidates have not taken the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5031 test at this time, please encourage them to take the new Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5001. If candidates take the newly adopted test, it alleviates the concern of being subject to the test discontinuation policy of the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects 5031.

Certification applicants who are advised in writing by the Teacher Certification Section of the need to complete testing requirements will have six months from the date of the advisement to do so. Note this six-month period is not applicable to certificate reinstatement or alternative approaches to earning a professional certificate.

Please continue to assist us with communicating this information to all educational stakeholders who may be affected by the content presented herein. The Alabama State Department of Education remains committed to ensuring that the AECTP is valid and reliable. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Jendia S. Grissett, Coordinator, Teacher Testing Section, by telephone at 334-242-9983 or by e-mail at jgrissett@alsde.edu.

TRB/JAM/JSG

cc: Private School Administrators
    Certification Officers
    Mrs. Sherrill W. Parris
    Mr. Larry Craven
    Dr. Jayne A. Meyer
    Dr. Jendia S. Grissett
    Mrs. Sarah P. Justiss

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