

University of Kansas SOEHS ETS Praxis PLT and Praxis II Content Scores

Title of Assessment: Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) and Praxis II Content Scores

Exam Scores Program:

All Initial Programs TAG: CAEP 1.1, 1.3, 2.3, 3.4, 3.5, 5.3

InTASC Standard #1, #2, #3, #5, #6, #7, #8

Purpose of the PLT Assessment: The purpose of this test is to assess a new teacher's knowledge and understanding of educational practices foundational to beginning a career as a professional teacher. The test content assesses key indicators of the beginning educator's knowledge of topics such as human development, learning processes, instructional processes, diverse learners, educational psychology and professional issues. All candidates for an initial teaching license in Kansas are required to pass a Principles of Learning and Teaching test. Kansas Minimum Level of Proficiency: 160

Purpose of the Content Exam: The purpose of content exams is to assess content knowledge in each of the endorsement or teaching subjects for which a candidate completed a teacher preparation program. Each new licensure endorsement requires a passing score on the appropriate content assessment. The Kansas Department of Education identifies the appropriate exam or exams for each content area.

Administration: Candidates must meet the qualifying score for each required exam to become licensure eligible in the state of Kansas. Most candidates take their exams near the end or at the end of their degree program. Candidates must schedule testing through ETS, taking the exam specifically required by the state of Kansas.

Reliability/Validity: ETS Technical Manual for The Praxis Series® & Related Assessments (2015) (located at https://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/technical_manual.pdf)

How are data analyzed and interpreted? Data from the Praxis PLT exam are aligned to individual program content standards within the individual KSDE program reports. Data are disaggregated annually by program and shared with program coordinators. Program coordinators use this data to prepare the annual program reports, which monitor program completer progress on KSDE program standards. National data comparisons are shared with program coordinators.

Note: For publicly available documents categories with fewer than 10 observations are masked for privacy.

Data Analysis: The Praxis II and Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Exam data of **591** candidates in the Academic Years of **2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22** were analyzed by using both descriptive statistics and inferential statistical tests. Means and standard deviations of the PLT Exam total score and subscores were calculated to evaluate the degree of the candidates' knowledge and understanding of educational practices foundational to beginning a career as a professional teacher by academic year and teaching field. The 2x2 factorial analysis of variance (ANOVAs) were conducted to determine if there are systematic significant differences among the mean Praxis PLT exams total scores by demographic characteristics of gender and race. Praxis II Content exams have different qualifying scores depending on the content so unit level analysis of candidate performance is conducted by comparing candidates' percent of total score possible.

ETS Praxis II Content Scores Key findings include the following:

Praxis II Content Exam

Content exams may not have the same number of possible points or same qualifying score so unit level analysis of candidate performance will be conducted using the percent earned of total possible score.

- Across the academic years 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, the licensure candidates earned, on average, 73% of total points possible for initial licensure (469 initial candidates) and 78% for advanced licensure (156 advanced candidates).
- EPP candidates scored at a level consistent with national peers.
- Initial group comparisons:
 - There is no meaningful difference in the overall percent earned of total score possible between female (M=73%, SD 0.1, 381 candidates) and male candidates (Mean 73%, SD 0.1, 87 candidates).
 - There is a statistical difference in the total mean score between non-minority, defined as White, (M=74%, SD 0.1, 391 candidates) and minority candidates (M=70%, SD .1, 61 candidates). While the effect size was small ($\eta^2 = .02$), the pass rate was 98% for non-minority and 90% for minority candidates.
- Advanced group comparisons:
 - There is no statistical difference in the overall percent earned of total score possible between female (M=79%, SD 0.1, 129 candidates) and male candidates (Mean 77%, SD 0.1, 28 candidates).
 - There is statistical difference in the total mean score between non-minority, defined as White, (M=79%, SD 0.1, 147 candidates) and minority candidates (M=73%, SD 0.1, 10 candidates). Despite the difference in average means between the two groups, the pass rate is comparable.

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EPP Response to Data: PRAXIS II data from **2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22** provide evidence that candidates have consistently achieved mean scores above the range required for licensure. Across the 3 years, candidates scored 74% of total possible score. Within their individual content area exams, EPP program mean scores are consistent with national mean scores. The EPP has a limited number of candidates who do not pass the Content exam on the first attempt. Across the three years, **33 of 581 (6%)** candidates failed a Praxis II content exam on the first attempt. Ultimately, 98.5% completers passed the Praxis II.

1.3—ETS Praxis PLT Scores Key findings include the following:

Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Exam

- The overall mean total score (M =177, SD =8.5) for the 436 candidates completing the PLT Exam substantially exceeds the Minimum Level of Proficiency score of 160.
- 97% of the 436 candidates exceeded the Minimum Level of Proficiency score of 160 points.
- EPP candidates scored at a level consistent with national peers.
- Program level mean scores ranged from 169 to 184; exceeding the state qualifying score.
- The teaching fields with mean PLT scores higher than 180 **include Foreign Language (183, 10 candidates), (Mathematics (Mean 182, 14 candidates), and English (Mean 181, 49 candidates).**
- Initial Group Comparisons:
 - There is no statistical difference in the mean total score between female (Mean 177, SD 8.4, 359 candidates) and male candidates (Mean 176, SD 8.9, 79 candidates).
 - There is no statistical difference in the mean total score between White (Mean 177, SD 8.6, 374 candidates) and minority candidates (Mean 175, SD 8.0, 55 candidates).

EPP Response to Data: PLT data from **2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22** provide evidence that candidates have consistently achieved mean scores well above the 160 passing score required for licensure. The mean score for the three-year cycle for **436 EPP candidates was 177**; well above the 160 qualifying score. from EPP mean scores are consistent with national mean scores. The EPP has a limited number of candidates who do not pass the PLT exam on the first attempt. Across the three years, **27 of 498 (5%)** candidates failed the PLT on the first attempt (this statistic is provided by the testing service and includes individuals who have not yet completed their program). Ultimately, **98% of program completers passed the PLT.**

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Initial Programs: Praxis II Pass Rates Across 3 Years by Unit and Content Area

	2021-22				2020-21				2019-20			
	Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Unit Level	169	92%	14	8%	137	95%	7	5%	152	94 %	9	6%
Art	13	87%	2	13%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Biology	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chemistry												
Early Childhood – B-K, Graduate	11	100%	0	0%	16	100%	0	0%	15	94%	1	6%
Early Childhood – B-3, Undergraduate*	*	*	*	*	12	100%	0	0%	11	100%	0	0%
Earth & Space	*	*	*	*								
Elementary**	67	91%	7	9%	64	94%	4	6%	51	93%	4	7%
Elementary Unified**												
English (Secondary)	17	100%	0	0%	14	93%	1	7%	20	100%	0	0%
Foreign Language	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
History & Government	13	87%	2	13%	*	*	*	*	15	88%	2	12%
Mathematics (Secondary)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Music	12	100%	0	0%	12	92%	1	8%	18	100%	0	0%
Physical Education	15	94%	1	6%								
Physics												

* Early Childhood Unified (Birth to age 3) candidates take two exams as of 2019-20.

** Elementary candidates take 4 sub-tests as of 2019-20. Elementary Unified candidates take an additional exam as of 2019-20.

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Initial Programs: Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Pass Rates Across 3 Years by Unit and Content Area

	2021-22				2020-21				2019-20			
	Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Unit Level	144	98%	3	2%	132	98%	3	2%	151	97%	4	3%
Art	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Biology	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Chemistry	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Early Childhood – B-K, Graduate	*	*	*	*	16	100%	0	0%	13	87%	2	13.3%
Early Childhood – B-3, Undergraduate*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Earth & Space	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Elementary**	69	100%	0	0%	60	96.8%	2	3%	51	98%	1	1.9%
Elementary Unified**	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
English (Secondary)	13	93%	1	7%	16	100%	0	0%	20	100%	0	0%
Foreign Language	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
History & Government	*	*	*	*	10	100%	0	0%	17	100%	0	0%
Mathematics (Secondary)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Music	9	90%	1	10%	11	92%	1	8%	16	94%	1	5.9%
Physical Education	14	100%	0	0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Physics	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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Advanced Programs: Praxis II Pass Rates Across 3 Years by Unit and Content Area

	2021-22				2020-21				2019-20			
	Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Unit Level	53	98%	1	2%	55	100%	0	0%	54	100%	0	0%
Building Leader	11	100%	0	0%	15	100%	0	0%	15	100%	0	0%
District Leader	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ESOL	*	*	*	0%	13	100%	0	0%	*	*	*	*
High Incidence	10	100%	0	0%	*	*	*	0%	17	100%	0	0%
Low Incidence	*	*	*	0%	*	*	*	0%	*	*	*	*
Reading	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0%	*	*	*	*
School Psychologist	11	100%	0	0%	*	*	*	0%	*	*	*	*

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