

All candidates seeking an initial instructional (teaching) certification must meet the basic skills requirement in one of the ways below or using a combination of passing scores from the various tests. PDE provides the most recent information online. **TO SEE IF A COMBINATION OF YOUR SCORES FROM DIFFERENT TESTS IS PASSING, go to the PDE website and search click on the "COMPOSITE SCORE CALCULATOR (Excel file)". Enter the scores from the tests you have taken and the calculator will indicate whether your scores are passing.** Individuals that completed an approved post-baccalaureate certification program or hold a graduate level degree are NOT required to take the basic skills assessments.

1) PAPA – Pre-Service Academic Performance Assessment: Register at www.pa.nesinc.com. Preparation materials also available.

PAPA TEST NAME	PASSING SCORE	COMPOSITE PASSING SCORE	To use Composite scores, the sum of your three tests total 633 or higher.
PAPA Module 1 Reading (8001)	220	193	
PAPA Module 2 Math* (8002)	193	176*	
PAPA Module 3 Writing (8003)	220	192	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may take all three modules in one testing session or take them individually. 			
* PDE will accept 174 for the PAPA Math Composite Score from candidates accepted in the certification program prior to August 31, 2016.			

2) ETS Core Academic Skills for Educators | Register at www.ets.org/Praxis. Preparation materials also available.

CORE TEST	PASSING SCORE	COMPOSITE PASSING SCORE	To use Composite scores, sum of your three tests must total 460 or higher.
Core Academic Skills for Educators: Reading (5713)	156	148	
Core Academic Skills for Educators: Math (5733)	142	132	
Core Academic Skills for Educators: Writing (5723)	162	158	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may take all three modules in one testing session or take them individually. 			

3) SAT Scores

SAT TEST	Critical Reading	Math	Writing and Language
SAT taken 3-1-16 and later (if the sum of scores equals 81 or higher)	25	24	26
SAT taken 3-1-16 and later	27	26	28
SAT taken prior to 3-1-16	500	500	500

4) ACT Scores

ACT TEST	Reading	Math	Writing and Language
ACT taken 9-1-16 and later (if sum of your scores equals 51 or higher)	20	19	7
ACT taken 9-1-16 and later	22	21	8
ACT taken between 9-1-15 and 8-31-16 (if sum of scores equals 64 or higher)	20	19	17
ACT taken between 9-1-15 and 8-31-16	22	21	21
ACT taken prior to 9-1-15: Send an email to ra-edcertquestions@pa.gov with a copy of your full score report for a determination.			

5) Academic Courses

It may be possible to meet the Reading, Writing, and Math basic skills by achieving a B or better in PDE approved course or series of courses. See your advisor for clarification as approval for this option may depend on when you started or transferred to SRU.		
Reading: SRU ENGL 104 (Critical Reading)	Writing: SRU ENGL 102 (Critical Writing)	Math: SRU courses available in January 2022 Cal U - Math 130 BC3 - Math 182/183 (Must take both courses)