

# Praxis Core Workgroup COPS Presentation

January 17, 2024

**Using Multiple Measures of Demonstrating Competency for Teacher Licensure  
Recommendations for the Commission on Professional Standards in Education**

**Nevada Department of Education | Office of Educator Development,  
Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE)**

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# Contract with WestEd

**The Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE) contracted with WestEd to address Assembly Bill 225 from the 2021 Legislative Session. The scope included**

- **convening, planning, and facilitating three workgroup sessions;**
- **conducting a scan of other states' approaches to teacher certification in lieu of teacher exams; and**
- **summarizing existing research on certification options in lieu of teacher exams.**

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# Workgroup Recommendations: Regulation Changes NOT REQUIRED

# Workgroup Suggestions That DO NOT REQUIRE Regulation Change

- Change the acceptable passing score by one standard error of measurement. **(COMPLETED)**
- Accept a composite score (combined reading, writing, and math subtest scores) with a minimum for each subtest.

# Nevada Changed Acceptable Passing Score by One Standard Error of Measurement in March 2023

- Changed passing score in Reading to 92.08, Math to 82.82, and Writing to 88.14
- From March 23, 2023 to July 1, 2023, 71 Nevada teachers that had a provision on their license were able to become fully credentialed as a result of the score change

# Accept a Composite Score (Combined Reading, Writing, and Math Subtest Scores) With a Minimum for Each Subtest

- The ACT and SAT exams are reported as composite scores. A composite score could be considered for passing the Praxis Core with safeguards in place to ensure an acceptable minimum for each of the subtests.
- Many students have difficulty with only one section; some have high scores in two sections and continue to miss passing the third section by a point or two on repeated attempts.
- This option would require
  - EDLiFE staff to manually calculate composite scores and confirm minimum acceptable scores on each subtest **OR**
  - NDE to hire programmers to create a tabulation system.

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# Praxis Core Composite Option: State Interviews

In June 2023, WestEd conducted phone interviews with educator licensure staff from North Dakota and North Carolina

# North Carolina and North Dakota: Praxis Core Composite Score Option

State	Composite	Reading	Writing	Math
North Carolina	468	156	162	150
North Dakota	466	149	153	143

State	Composite	Reading	Writing	Math
Nevada Prior to March 2023	None	156	162	150
Nevada Post-March 2023	None	150	156	144



# History

## North Carolina, 2006

- Minimum subtest score and composite score based on recommendations from ETS and benchmarks against other similar states

## North Dakota, 2012

- Minimum score for each subtest based on -1 SEM and 5 years of test data and classroom observation data

# Process

## North Carolina

- Hired programmers who built an automatized system using SASS software
- Certification analysts do not manually calculate composite scores

## North Dakota

- Hired programmers to build tabulation system
- Certification analysts do not manually calculate composite scores

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# Impact

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**Neither North Carolina or North Dakota currently track educator performance for those who gained initial licensure by using a composite score on Praxis Core to meet the assessment requirement.**

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# Workgroup Recommendations: Regulation Changes **REQUIRED**

# Workgroup Suggestions That REQUIRE Regulation Change

- Accept measures other than the Praxis Core: obtaining a master's degree or acceptable passing score on ACT or SAT. **(R166-22 became law on June 2, 2023.)**
- After the first Praxis attempt, accept coursework approved by the Department with a 3.0 GPA. Regulation must be written per AB 428 (2023)
  - Workgroup in process – first meeting January 8, 2024
  - Purpose
    - to find appropriate coursework that meets the intent of AB 428 in the areas of reading, writing, and mathematics
    - make recommendations to the (COPS) regarding coursework regulations

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# Thank you!

**For more information, please contact:**

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