July 1, 2015

Virginia Department of Education
P. O. Box 2120
Richmond, Virginia 23218-2120

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR VIRGINIA LICENSURE

To review the requirements for licensure, please refer to the Licensure Regulations for School Personnel that may be accessed at the following Web site: http://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title8/agency20/chapter22/. Please read the information carefully to determine the assessments you may need for an initial Virginia license, an endorsement as a reading specialist, or the administration and supervision endorsement.

Introduction

Pursuant to the *Licensure Regulations for School Personnel*, all candidates who hold at least a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university and who seek an initial Virginia teaching license must obtain passing scores on professional teacher's assessments prescribed by the Board of Education. With the exception of the career switcher program that requires assessments as prerequisites, individuals must complete the professional teacher's assessments within the three-year validity of the initial provisional license. Candidates seeking a Technical Professional License, the International License, School Manager License, or the Pupil Personnel Services License are not required to take the professional teacher's assessments.

The Virginia Board of Education also has approved assessments for individuals seeking the reading specialist endorsement and the administration and supervision endorsement.

Exemption Criteria

Individuals who hold a valid out-of-state license (full credential with no deficiencies) and who have completed a minimum of three years of full-time, successful teaching experience in a public or accredited nonpublic school (kindergarten through grade 12) in a state other than Virginia are exempted from the professional teacher's assessment requirements (Virginia Communications and Literacy Assessment--VCLA, Praxis II, and the Reading for Virginia Educators --RVE). Experience as a substitute teacher or as a teacher's aide is not acceptable experience to meet this exemption.

[Please note that the current out-of-state license (full credential with no deficiencies) and the documented teaching experience must be submitted with the application for the license. Documented teaching experience must be submitted on a Virginia Report on Experience Form.]

Assessments Required for Initial Licensure

The prescribed tests for Virginia for initial licensure are as follows:

ACADEMIC SKILLS ASSESSMENT

Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment-VCLA

CONTENT ASSESSMENT

Praxis II (if applicable) – Refer to Praxis II: Specialty Area Tests

READING ASSESSMENT [Required for the specific endorsement areas listed below.]

Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education (5306) -- A reading assessment [Reading for Virginia Educators: Elementary and Special Education-RVE is required for individuals seeking initial licensure in any of the following endorsements (teaching areas): Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education-General Curriculum, Special Education-Hearing Impairments, and Special Education-Visual Impairments. [This assessment also may apply to those individuals with endorsements in Special Education-Emotional Disturbances, Special Education-Specific Learning Disabilities, and Special Education-Intellectual Disabilities who were advised under previous regulations to meet this assessment requirement for full licensure.]

Assessment Required for Individuals Seeking a Reading Specialist Endorsement

Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Reading Specialist (5304)

Assessment Required for Individuals Seeking an Administration and Supervision Endorsement

School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) (6011)

Assessments

VIRGINIA COMMUNICATION AND LITERACY ASSESSMENT

The Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) became effective January 1, 2006, for individuals seeking an initial Virginia license unless an individual meets the exemption criteria. Beginning November 1, 2013, the VCLA became available only through computer-based testing. For more information about the test content, test dates, costs, accommodations for individuals with disabilities, and registration, refer to the Web site, www.va.nesinc.com, or contact Evaluation Systems Pearson, P. O. Box 660, Amherst, MA 01004-9015; Telephone: (866) 613-3292 or (413) 256-2888; Teletypewriter (TTY): (413) 256-8032.

PASSING SCORES: EFFECTIVE MARCH 22, 2006 to DECEMBER 31, 2013

On March 22, 2006, the Virginia Board of Education approved passing scores for the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA). The scaled passing scores are 235 for the reading subtest, a score of 235 for the writing subtest, **or** a composite score of 470 for the assessment.

Writing Sub Test:	235
Reading Sub Test:	235
Composite Score:	470

PASSING SCORES: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014

On June 27, 2013, the Virginia Board of Education approved new VCLA passing raw scores for the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA). Even though the scaled passing score remains the same, the score scale has been adjusted to apply the Board approved passing raw scores. As a result, the scaled passing scores are 235 for the reading subtest, a score of 235 for the writing subtest, **or** a composite score of 470 for the assessment.

Writing Sub Test:	235
Reading Sub Test:	235
Composite Score:	470

Score reports for individuals who took the VCLA prior to January 1, 2014, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.

PRAXIS II: SPECIALTY AREA TESTS

Please note the column that identifies the "CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TESTS."

The following tests are required for the noted endorsement (teaching specialty) areas for initial licensure unless an individual meets the exemption criteria. Individuals are required to satisfy the Specialty Area test(s) requirement for only one endorsement area, but it must match an endorsement area in which the initial licensure is granted. For information regarding registration, test administration, fees, the policy for testing individuals with disabilities, etc., please refer to the Web site, www.ets.org, or contact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) at 1-800-772-9476 or 609-771-7395 for THE PRAXIS SERIES Registration Bulletin or write to THE PRAXIS SERIES, ETS, P. O. Box 6051, Princeton, NJ 08541-6051. Hearing impaired individuals using a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may call 1-800-275-1391 for information.

SPECIALTY AREA TEST	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TESTS (MARKED WITH X)	TEST CODE Praxis II test codes beginning with a "5" are computer-based tests.	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
ART (Visual Arts):				
Art: Content Knowledge (taken before 9/1/2011)		(0133) **not current test in Virginia**	159	Visual Arts
Art: Content Knowledge (taken between 9/1/2011 and 6/7/2014)		(0134) paper **not current test in Virginia**	158	Visual Arts
Art: Content Knowledge (taken after 9/1/2011)	**X**	(5134) computer	158	Visual Arts
BIOLOGY:				
Biology: Content Knowledge (taken before 6/7/2014)		(0235) paper **not current test in Virginia**	155	Biology
Biology: Content Knowledge	**X**	(5235) computer	155	Biology
BRAILLE (Special Education-Visual Impairments):				
Braille Proficiency (effective 7/1/2011) (This test became effective 7/1/2011, except for teachers completing the approved Virginia Visual Impairments Consortium Program who were required to meet this effective 7/1/2012.)	**X**	(0631) paper	168	Special Education-Visual Impairments
BUSINESS (Business and Information Technology):				
Business Education: Content Knowledge (taken before 9/1/2010)		(0100) **not current test in Virginia**	590	Business and Information Technology
Business Education: Content Knowledge (taken after 9/1/2010 through 6/7/2014)		(0101) paper **not current test in Virginia**	157	Business and Information Technology
Business Education: Content Knowledge (taken after 9/1/2010)	**X**	(5101) computer	157	Business and Information Technology
CHEMISTRY:				
Chemistry: Content Knowledge (taken before 6/7/2014)		(0245) paper **not current test in Virginia**	153	Chemistry
Chemistry: Content Knowledge	**X**	(5245) computer	153	Chemistry
EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES:				
Earth and Space Sciences: Content Knowledge (taken before 6/7/2014)		(0571) paper **not current test in Virginia**	156	Earth Science
Earth and Space Sciences: Content Knowledge	**X**	(5571) computer	156	Earth Science
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION:				
Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (taken before 7/1/2014) [Score reports for individuals who took the Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (0014/5014) prior to 7/1/2014, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(0014) paper **not current test in Virginia**	143	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6

SPECIALTY AREA TEST	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TESTS (MARKED WITH X)	TEST CODE Praxis II test codes beginning with a "5" are computer-based tests.	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (taken before 7/1/2014) [Score reports for individuals who took the Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (0014/5014) prior to 7/1/2014, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(5014) computer **not current test in Virginia**	143	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5031): This test was required in Virginia 7/1/2014 through 6/30/2015. A passing score on each subtest was required. [Score reports for individuals who took the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5031) prior to 7/1/2015, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		**not current test in Virginia**		Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Subtest (5032): Reading and Language Arts (required 7/1/2014 through 6/30/2015)		(5032) computer **not current test in Virginia**	165	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Subtest (5033): Mathematics (required 7/1/2014 through 6/30/2015)		(5033) computer **not current test in Virginia**	164	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Subtest (5034): Social Studies (required 7/1/2014 through 6/30/2015)		(5034) computer **not current test in Virginia**	155	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education Multiple Subjects Subtest (5035): Science (required 7/1/2014 through 6/30/2015)		(5035) computer **not current test in Virginia**	159	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education PreK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5001): **This test is required in Virginia on and after 7/1/2015. A passing score on <u>each</u> subtest is required.** If a passing score is not obtained on each subtest, a subtest may be retaken as a stand-alone test.	**X**			Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5002): Reading and Language Arts (required 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5002) computer	157	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5003): Mathematics (required 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5003) computer	157	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects (5004): Social Studies (required 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5004) computer	155	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
Elementary Education Multiple Subjects (5005): Science (required 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5005) computer	159	Early/Primary Education preK-3; Elementary Education preK-6
ENGLISH:				
English Language, Literature and Composition: Content Knowledge (taken before 1/1/2014)		(0041) paper **not current test in Virginia**	172	English
English Language, Literature and Composition: Content Knowledge (taken before 1/1/ 2014)		(5041) computer **not current test in Virginia**	172	English
English Language Arts: Content Knowledge (taken after 1/1/2014)	**X**	(5038) computer	167	English
FRENCH:				
French: Content Knowledge (taken before 9/1/2010)		(0173) **not current test in Virginia**	169	French
French: World Language (taken after 9/1/2010)	**X**	(5174) computer	163	French
GERMAN:				
German: Content Knowledge (taken before 9/1/2010)		(0181) **not current test in Virginia**	162	German
German: World Language (taken after 9/1/2010)	**X**	(5183) computer	163	German

SPECIALTY AREA TEST	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TESTS (MARKED WITH X)	TEST CODE Praxis II test codes beginning with a "5" are computer-based tests.	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES:				
Family and Consumer Sciences (taken before 9/1/2008)		(0120) **not current test in Virginia**	550	Family and Consumer Sciences
Family and Consumer Sciences (taken between 9/1/2008 and 6/7/2014) [Score reports for individuals who took the Family and Consumer Sciences (0121/5121) prior to 7/1/2015, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(0121) paper **not current test in Virginia**	150	Family and Consumer Sciences
Family and Consumer Sciences (taken between 9/1/2008 and 6/30/2015) [Score reports for individuals who took the Family and Consumer Sciences (0121/5121) prior to 7/1/2015, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(5121) computer **not current test in Virginia**	150	Family and Consumer Sciences
Family and Consumer Sciences (required 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5122) computer	153	Family and Consumer Sciences
HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION:				
Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (discontinued on 6/7/2014) [Score reports for individuals who took the Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (0856/5856) prior to 7/1/2015, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(0856) paper **not current test in Virginia**	151	Health and Physical Education PreK-12
Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (discontinued on 6/30/2015) [Score reports for individuals who took the Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (0856/5856) prior to 7/1/2015, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(5856) computer **not current test in Virginia**	151	Health and Physical Education PreK-12
Health and Physical Education: Content Knowledge (required effective 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5857) computer	160	Health and Physical Education PreK-12
MARKETING EDUCATION:				
Marketing Education (taken before 9/1/2008)		(0560) **not current test in Virginia**	570	Marketing Education
Marketing Education (taken between 9/1/2008 and 10/5/2014)		(0561) **not current test in Virginia** The paper-delivered version was available until June 7, 2014. An accommodation may have been made by ETS for individuals who needed to take this assessment between June 8, 2014, and October 5, 2014.	147	Marketing Education
Marketing Education (taken after 10/6/2014)	**X**	5561 computer	147	Marketing Education

SPECIALTY AREA TEST	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TESTS (MARKED WITH X)	TEST CODE Praxis II test codes beginning with a "5" are computer-based tests.	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
MATHEMATICS:				
Mathematics: Content Knowledge (taken before 1/1/2014)		(0061) paper **not current test in Virginia**	147	Mathematics
Mathematics: Content Knowledge (taken before 1/1/2014)		(5061) computer **not current test in Virginia**	147	Mathematics
Mathematics: Content Knowledge (taken after 1/1/2014)	**X**	(5161) computer	160	Mathematics
MIDDLE SCHOOL-ENGLISH:				
Middle School English/Language Arts (taken before 1/1/2014)		(0049) paper **not current test in Virginia**	164	Middle Education English
Middle School English/Language Arts (taken before 1/1/2014)		(5049) computer **not current test in Virginia**	164	Middle Education English
Middle School English/Language Arts (taken after 1/1/2014)	**X**	(5047) computer	164	Middle Education English
MIDDLE SCHOOL-MATHEMATICS:				
Middle School Mathematics (taken before 1/1/2014)		(0069) paper **not current test in Virginia**	163	Middle Education Mathematics
Middle School Mathematics (taken after 1/1/2014)	**X**	(5169) computer	165	Middle Education Mathematics
MIDDLE SCHOOL-SCIENCE:				
Middle School Science (taken prior to 7/1/2015) [Score reports for individuals who took the Middle School Science (0439) prior to 7/1/2015, will be accepted provided the candidate met the passing score effective at the time the test was taken.]		(0439) paper **not current test in Virginia**	162	Middle Education Science
Middle School Science (required effective 7/1/2015)	**X**	(5440) computer	150	Middle Education Science
MIDDLE SCHOOL-SOCIAL STUDIES:				
Middle School Social Studies (taken prior to 6/7/2014)		(0089) paper **not current test in Virginia**	160	Middle Education History and Social Sciences
Middle School Social Studies	**X**	(5089) computer	160	Middle Education History and Social Sciences
MUSIC (Music-Vocal Choral or Music-Instrumental):				
Music: Content Knowledge		(0113) paper **not current test in Virginia**	160	Music-Vocal/Choral or Music-Instrumental
Music: Content Knowledge	**X**	(5113) computer	160	Music-Vocal/Choral or Music-Instrumental
PHYSICS:				
Physics: Content Knowledge (taken prior to 6/7/2014)		(0265) paper **not current test in Virginia**	147	Physics
Physics: Content Knowledge	**X**	(5265) computer	147	Physics
SOCIAL STUDIES (History and Social Sciences):				
Social Studies: Content Knowledge (taken prior to 6/7/2014)		(0081) paper **not current test in Virginia**	161	History and Social Science
Social Studies: Content Knowledge	**X**	(5081) computer	161	History and Social Science
SPANISH:				
Spanish: Content Knowledge (taken before 9/1/2010)		(0191) **not current test in Virginia**	161	Spanish
Spanish: World Language (taken after 9/1/2010)	**X**	(5195) computer	168	Spanish
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION:				
Technology Education (taken before 9/1/2011)		(0050) **not current test in Virginia**	610	Technology Education
Technology Education (taken between 9/1/2011 and 6/7/2014)		(0051) paper **not current test in Virginia**	162	Technology Education
Technology Education (taken after 7/1/2014)	**X**	(5051) computer	162	Technology Education

READING FOR VIRGINIA EDUCATORS

Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education (5306 computer-based)
Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Reading Specialist (5304 computer-based)

Reading assessments are prescribed by the Virginia Board of Education for individuals seeking the following endorsements unless the exemption criteria are met:

(1) an initial Virginia license with the following endorsements: Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education-General Curriculum, Special Education-Hearing Impairments, and Special Education-Visual Impairments; or

(2) an endorsement as a reading specialist.

Effective July 1, 2011, the Virginia Department of Education implemented changes in the required reading assessments for certain endorsements. For teachers seeking an initial license with endorsements in Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education – General Curriculum, Special Education – Hearing Impairments, or Special Education – Visual Impairments, the required reading assessment is the **Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education Teachers Assessment (5306).** On May 19, 2011, the Board of Education set the passing score for this assessment at **157**.

READING FOR VIRGINIA EDUCATORS TEST: Elementary and Special Education	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TEST	TEST CODE Praxis Series test codes beginning with a "5" are computer-based tests.	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education	**X**	5306 Beginning June 8, 2014, the RVE became available only via computer-based testing. The paper-based test (0306) is no longer given.	157	teachers seeking an initial license with endorsements in Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education – General Curriculum, Special Education – Hearing Impairments, or Special Education – Visual Impairments

Effective July 1, 2011, the required assessment for teachers seeking an endorsement as a reading specialist is the **Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Reading Specialist Assessment (5304).** On May 19, 2011, the Board of Education set the passing score for this assessment at **162**.

READING FOR VIRGINIA EDUCATORS TEST: Reading Specialist	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TEST	TEST CODE Praxis Series test codes beginning with a "5" are computer-based tests.	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
Praxis Series Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Reading Specialist Assessment	**X**	5304 Beginning June 8, 2014, the RVE became available only via computer-based testing. The paper-based test (0304) is no longer given.	162	teachers seeking an endorsement as a **Reading Specialist**

The RVE is offered by the Education Testing Service (ETS). For information regarding registration, test administration, fees, the policy for testing individuals with disabilities, etc., please refer to the Web site, www.ets.org, or contact the Educational Testing Service (ETS) at 1-800-772-9476 or 609-771-7395 for THE PRAXIS SERIES Registration Bulletin or write to THE PRAXIS SERIES, ETS, P. O. Box 6051, Princeton, NJ 08541-6051. Hearing impaired individuals using a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may call 1-800-275-1391 for information.

NOTES:
Individuals who were previously cited for the Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA) or Virginia Reading Assessment for Reading Specialists (VRA for Reading Specialists) and who have not yet completed these tests are now required to take the new assessments. The VRA and VRA for Reading Specialists are no longer available.

VRA (no longer available) Taken Prior to June 30, 2011: Even though the Virginia Reading Assessment (VRA) and Virginia Reading Assessment for Reading Specialists (VRA for Reading Specialists) have not been administered since June 30, 2011, the passing scores on the VRA assessments will be accepted from individuals who took the tests prior to June 30, 2011. The cut score for the Virginia Reading Assessments for elementary and special education teachers was 235 and the cut score for reading specialists was 245, effective July 1, 2006.

SCHOOL LEADERS LICENSURE ASSESSMENT (SLLA) – TEST CODE 6011

Effective July 1, 2005, the Board of Education approved the use of the **School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)** for individuals seeking an administration and supervision endorsement.

On January 14, 2010, the Board of Education approved a cut score of **163** for the SLLA (test code 1011). This test was administered for the last time in a paper format in September 2011. Effective January 2012, the SLLA is available in a computer-delivered format only. **The test code is 6011, and the cut score is 163.**

SCHOOL LEADERS LICENSURE ASSESSMENT	CURRENT VIRGINIA APPROVED TEST	TEST CODE	PASSING SCORE	ENDORSEMENT AREA
School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA)	**X**	6011	163	**Administration and Supervision**

NOTE:
Previous Version of SLLA (no longer available): Virginia will continue to accept passing scores on the old version of the SLLA (test code 1010) that was last administered in Virginia in October 2009. The cut score for the SLLA test code 1010 was 165.

Copies of Official Score Reports

Upon registering for an assessment(s) test takers may have opted for score(s) to be sent to the Virginia Department of Education. Please note that the Licensure Office does not receive a paper copy of the official score report(s) from the testing service. Because not all scores can be electronically accessed, candidates need to mail a paper copy of their official score report to the Licensure Office with the licensure application.