University of Kansas SOEHS Educational Testing Service Praxis II Exam Content Scores

Title of Assessment: Praxis II Content Scores

Exam Scores Program:
All Initial and Advanced Programs TAG: CAEP R1.2, R3.3, RA1.1, RA3.4
InTASC Standard #4

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 (KSDE) identifies the appropriate exam or exams for each content area.

Administration: Candidates must meet the qualifying score for each required exam to become eligible for licensure 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(s) specifically required by the state of Kansas. Licensure in the areas of Early Childhood Unified (B-3), Elementary Education (PK-6), and Elementary Education Unified (K-6) require more than one exam. In the tables below, **a Pass status indicates that the candidate passed all the Praxis exams required for licensure.**

Reliability/Validity: [Technical Manual for the Praxis Tests and Related Assessments (ets.org)](ets.org)

How are data analyzed and interpreted? Data from the Praxis exams 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. State data comparisons are shared with program coordinators.

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

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Data Analysis: The Praxis II Exam data of **539** candidates in the academic years **2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23** were analyzed by using both descriptive statistics and inferential statistical tests. 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 **2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23**, the licensure candidates earned, on average, 73% of total points possible for initial licensure (468 candidates) and 78% for advanced licensure (156 candidates).
• EPP candidates scored at a level consistent with state and national peers.
• Initial group comparisons:
  • There is **no** statistical difference in the overall percent earned of total score possible between female (M=73%, SD 10.18, 381 candidates) and male candidates (Mean 74%, SD 9.56, 87 candidates).
  • There is a statistical difference in the total mean score between non-minority, defined as White, (M=73%, SD 9.86, 391 candidates) and minority candidates (M=70%, SD 10.41, 61 candidates). While the effect size was small (eta sq. =.02), the pass rate was 98% for non-minority and 93% for minority candidates.
• Advanced group comparisons:
  • There is **no** statistical difference in the overall percent earned of total score possible between female (M=78%, SD 8.11, 93 candidates) and male candidates (Mean 78%, SD 6.8, 24 candidates).
  • There is **no** statistical difference in the total mean score between non-minority, defined as White, (M=78%, SD 0.08, 113 candidates) and minority candidates (M=75%, SD 0.09, 16 candidates). Pass rate is comparable between the two groups.

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EPP Response to Data: PRAXIS II data from **2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23** provide evidence that most candidates scored above the threshold required for Kansas licensure. The following table will demonstrate that our programs have exceeded the 80% pass rate for Praxis II content scores required to meet Kansas Department of Education EPP program standards.

Across the 3 years, 96% completers in the Initial Licensure Programs who took the requisite exam(s), and 98% of completers in the Advanced Licensure Programs who took the requisite exam, passed the Praxis II exam(s) required for licensure. Of these students, **84%** of candidates **passed** the required Praxis II content exam(s) on the first attempt.

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

	3 Year Pass Rate	2022-23				2021-22				2020-21			
		Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass		Pass		Not Pass	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Unit Level	**96%**	**68**	**97%**	**2**	**3%**	**77**	**92%**	**7**	**8%**	**55**	**96%**	**2**	**4%**
Art	87%	*		*		*		*		*		*	
Biology	100%					*		*		*		*	
Chemistry	-												
Early Childhood – B-K, Graduate	100%	*		*		*		*		10	100%		
Early Childhood – B-3, Undergraduate*	92%	9	75%	3	25%	11	100%			16	100%		
Earth & Space	100%					*		*					
Elementary**	98%	47	98%	1	2%	68	99%	1	1%	61	98%	1	2%
Elementary Unified**	-												
English (Secondary)	95%	10	91%	1	9%	16	100%			14		1	
Foreign Language	63%	*		*		*		*		*		*	
History & Government (Secondary)	97%	17	100%			9	90%	1	10%	*		*	
Mathematics (Secondary)	92%	*		*		*		*		*		*	
Music	98%	16	100%			11	100%			12	92%	1	8%
Physical Education	96%	*				13	93%	1	7%	*		*	
Physics	100%	*		*									

* Early Childhood Unified (Birth to age 3) candidates take two exams.
** Elementary candidates take 4 sub-tests. Elementary Unified candidates take an additional exam.

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Advanced Programs: Praxis II Pass Rates Across 3 Years (2020-2023) by Unit and Content Area

	Pass		Not Pass	
	Count	%	Count	%
Unit Level	**127**	**98%**	**2**	**2%**
Building Leader	35	100%		
District Leader	9	100%		
Teaching English as a Second Language	21	100%		
High Incidence Disability	20	100%		
Low Incidence Disability	14	100%		
Reading Specialist	12	86%	2	14%
School Psychologist	16	100%		

Note: For public reporting, the Advanced program data are aggregated across 3 years to facilitate program level reporting while maintaining candidate privacy.

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