

Licensure Officer Training Fall 2012

Certification Testing

Illinois Certification Testing System (ICTS)

Purpose of ICTS

- The Illinois Certification Testing System (ICTS) was developed under the direction of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISB) to meet legal and regulatory requirements in Illinois relating to the preparation and certification of educators.
- The ICTS program, outlined in Section 21.1a (OLD) and Section 21B-30 (NEW) of Illinois School Code, is aligned with the state's educational law, policy, and practice.

Important Note About Testing

- The Licensure Officer is responsible for ensuring that all required tests are passed.
- TCIS is not programmed to verify that tests required for additional endorsements have been passed.
- This applies to both the first certificate (license) notification as well as subsequent endorsements.
- ISBE will randomly audit entitlement notifications. If discrepancies are noted, the unit's ability to offer preparation programs may be placed in jeopardy.

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (TAP)

The Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP)*

(formerly known as the Basic Skills test)

- Reading Comprehension 60 MCQ/48 scorable items= 37/48
- Language Arts 60 MCQ/48 scorable items= 37/48
- Mathematics 50 MCQ/40 scorable items= 29/40
- One constructed response assignment 8/12

This test must be passed as a requirement for full admission to a program or for individuals seeking Illinois certification from out-of-state/country.

TAP “unofficial” scores on the MCQ available immediately

- Beginning September 10, 2012, examinees will receive “unofficial” TAP results on the reading, language arts, and mathematics subtests at the end of the test session.
- We cannot issue credentials until we have the official score reports, but this information should serve to inform examinees as to next steps, i.e. what type of remediation is needed, if any.

*Use of the ACT or SAT in Lieu of the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP)

- The ACT Plus Writing or the SAT may be used in lieu of the TAP for the following purposes:
 - Full admission to an Illinois approved educator program (ISBE form 73-60); or
 - When applying for licensure based on an out-of-state or out-of-country credential (ISBE form 73-54).

*Use of the ACT or SAT in Lieu of the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP)

ACT PLUS WRITING

- Applicant must submit ISBE form 73-54 or ISBE form 73-60.
- Applicant must submit a composite score of 22 on the ACT Plus Writing.
- Official score report must reflect a score that is less than five years old at the time of application.
- Applicant must use the ISBE code; 3001. As of October 1, 2012, we cannot accept any score reports that are not sent directly from ACT. Until that time we will accept official reports in a sealed envelope from ACT.

SAT

- Applicant must submit ISBE form 73-54 or ISBE form 73-60.
- Applicant must submit a composite score of 1030 (mathematics and critical reading).
- Official score report must reflect a score that is less than five years old at the time of application.

Acceptable Official Score Reports from ACT/SAT

- Each official score report must arrive to ISBE in a sealed envelope from ACT/SAT.
- We must receive the corresponding ISBE form (73-60) to input the applicant into our database. If we do not receive this form, the score report may not be attributed to the individual applicant.
- After a TCIS/ELIS account has been created, the individual may create an ECS account to view his/her testing history.

View of the ACT/SAT in Lieu of the TAP—Institution View

Entitlement Notification Entry

General Information

IEIN: 808870 SSN: 555-55-5555 Date Received: 09/11/2012 Edit Notifications

Last/First/M: Bestteacher Susan R DOB: 09/13/1964

Degree Information

State: IL - Illinois

Institution: UIC - Univ. Of Ill at Chicago

Degree: B - Bachelors

Major:

Approved Program Information

State: IL

Institution: UIC - University of Illinois at Chicago Circle

Certificate Type:

Approved Program and Endorsement Information

Approved Program/Endorsements

Has Applicant Completed "ALL" Requirements Of The Approved Program?

☐ YES - As the authorized official of this recognized Illinois teacher education institution, I certify that the applicant has completed all requirements of the certification statutes and relevant rules leading to the certification and endorsements for which the applicant is requesting.

☒ NO - This notification for entitlement is being entered prior to completion of all requirements.

Tests

Test Code	Test Date	Description
600	06/30/2011	ACT - in lieu of TAP 400
601	09/28/2010	SAT - in lieu of TAP 400
187	09/11/2010	Superintendent
115	02/15/2008	Mathematics
155	01/01/2006	Learning Behavior Specialist I
163	01/01/2006	Special Education General Curriculum
096	01/01/2006	Before September 11, 2010 Basic Skills
104	01/01/2006	APT - Special
110	01/01/2006	Elementary/Middle Grades

View of the ACT/SAT in Lieu of the TAP—Institution View

Region UI - Application Entry Screen - Susan R Bestteacher -

Teacher Information:

SSN: 555-55-5555 IEIN: 808870 Last: Bestteacher First: Susan Initial: R DOB: 09/13/1964

Address: 123 Any St Address2: City: Any Town State: IL - Illinois Zip: 54444-4444

Home: (999) 999-9999 Wk: () - Alt: () - Email: lrhoades@isbe.net

Citizenship: ☒ Yes ☐ No Expires: / / Sex: ☒ F ☐ M

Active in ROE UIC: ☐ Yes ☒ No

State	Institution	Type	Major
IL - Illinois	COL - Columbia College	B - Bachelors	0086 - Elementary Education
IL - Illinois	RU - Roosevelt University	B - Bachelors	0086 - Elementary Education
IL - Illinois	SIC - Southern Ill Univ. Carbondale	B - Bachelors	0041 - Special Education
IL - Illinois	SIC - Southern Ill Univ. Carbondale	B - Bachelors	0086 - Elementary Education

Add Degree Update Degree Delete Degree

Tab: Certificate Paraprofessional Other Approvals Registration ROE UIC Info TSR/Misc ROE Notes

FY	ROE	District	Building	Position	Beg	End	Employed	Subject 1
----	-----	----------	----------	----------	-----	-----	----------	-----------

Test Taken	Test Date	Status
ACT - in lieu of TAP 400	06/30/2011	P
SAT - in lieu of TAP 400	09/28/2010	P
Superintendent	03/11/2010	P

Document Printed	Document ID	ROE	Date Printed
------------------	-------------	-----	--------------

Teaching Admin SGP

Semester	Status
----------	--------

Clear All Clear Cert/Apply Info Change Name... Print Authorization Print Receipt Issue Apply Close

View of ACT in Lieu of the TAP in the Educator Certification System (ECS)

ECS - Educator Certification System

IEIN: 775161

Educator Test Results - Frequently Asked Questions

Johnny J Smith

My Profile | My Credentials | Applications | Professional Development and Renewal | Register Certificates

My Credentials

Home

Current Credentials

Pending Applications

Expired Credentials

Previous Credentials

NCLB Areas

IL Teaching History

Document History

Degrees

Tests

Substitute Teaching Info

ECS Help Options

ECS User Manuals

Contact Regional Office

Other Links

ISBE Home

Prof. Dev. Provider

ECS Login Screen

IL Admin Academies

Log Out Of ECS

Code	Test Description	Test Date	Status
403	ICTS TAP: Mathematics	10/07/2011	Passed
600	ACT - in lieu of TAP 400	08/01/2012	Passed

Acceptable Official Score Reports from ACT/SAT

- ISBE will not contact individuals who make application with an unacceptable score report.
 - We have received numerous score reports that are unofficial, older than five years, do not represent a composite score of 22 on the *ACT Plus Writing*, or have no writing component.
- It is the applicant's responsibility to follow the procedures outlined on the website at <http://www.isbe.net/certification/default.htm>.
- Failure to follow established procedures may result in the individual's inability to count an ACT/SAT score in lieu of the TAP due to the five-year validity period.

Substituting the ACT/SAT for the TAP

- Note that in all subsequent webinar presentations it will be assumed that institution staff know that a composite score of 22 on the ACT Plus Writing and/or a composite score of 1030 on the SAT (mathematics and critical reading) may be utilized for admission to a program in lieu of the TAP.
- For brevity purposes, when instructed that the TAP is required for a particular credential, the appropriate scores on the ACT Plus Writing or the SAT may be used in lieu of passing the TAP.

ACT/SAT and the TAP

- It is not possible to combine an ACT score or a SAT score with the writing subtest of the TAP.

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (Content-Area Tests)

- Content-Area Tests

All content tests except for the *Special Education General Curriculum Test*, *Foreign Language content tests*, *Target Language Proficiency tests*, and the *LBS II tests* consist of 125 multiple choice questions.

The *Special Education General Curriculum Test* has 65 multiple choice questions.

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (Content-Area Tests)

- Foreign Language Content-Area Tests
 - French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Russian and Spanish tests consist of 100 multiple choice questions and two constructed response assignments.
 - Arabic, Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Mandarin), Japanese, and Korean tests consist of 7 constructed response assignments and do not include multiple choice questions.

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (Content-Area Tests)

- Language Proficiency Tests for the Transitional Bilingual Certificate
 - Both the English Language Proficiency (ELP) and the Target Language Proficiency (TLP)-Spanish consist of 55 multiple choice questions and two constructed response assignments. These tests are offered at every paper based administration.
 - The TLP tests for language proficiency other than Spanish each consist of four constructed response assignments. These tests are offered in September, February and July.

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (Content-Area Tests)

- Learning Behavior Specialist II (LBS II) tests
 - Each LBSII test consists of six constructed response assignments, including three stand alone constructed response assignments and three constructed response assignments associated with a single case study.

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (APT)

- Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT)
 - These tests assess candidates on professional and pedagogical knowledge and skills.
 - Each APT test consists of 120 multiple choice questions and two constructed response assignments. There are currently four levels of APT tests available: Birth to Grade 3, Grades K-9, Grades 6-12, and Grades K-12

Three Types of Illinois Educator Tests (APT)

- To eliminate confusion on which APT test to take, beginning in 2013, there will be one APT test for all candidates. The current APT tests, however, will remain available until June 2014.

All ICTS Tests

All ICTS tests may include questions that will not count toward examinee's scores. These questions are placed on the test to collect information about including such questions on future test forms.

A Brief History of Educator Testing in Illinois

- The Basic Skills test was established July 1, 1988 and was required of individuals seeking certification.
- An “Enhanced Basic Skills” test (096) was first administered on September 1, 2001. The new test incorporated items that a college sophomore would answer correctly as opposed to an 8th grader.
- Content-area tests were added in September 1988, and now number over 90.

A Brief History of Educator Testing in Illinois

- Four new pedagogy tests—Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT) were first administered in 2003. Per 97-607, the APT is required of all individuals for completion of a teacher education program.
- On January 12, 2010, the *five-time testing limit* went into effect.

A Brief History of Educator Testing in Illinois

- On September 11, 2010, the *Basic Skills* (300) test was offered for the first time. The new test consisted of four subtests—reading comprehension, language arts, mathematics, and writing. Cut scores for each subtest were established. Scores on individual subtests could be banked.

A Brief History of Educator Testing in Illinois

- In 2010, content-area tests were made available in computer-based format (CBT). Currently the six most-requested content-area tests are available in both CBT and paper-pencil format:
 - Early Childhood Education (107)
 - Elementary/Middle Grades (110)
 - English/Language Arts (111)
 - Learning Behavior Specialist (155)
 - Mathematics (115)
 - Special Education General Curriculum (163)

A Brief History of Educator Testing in Illinois

- On February 1, 2012, the *Test of Academic Proficiency* (TAP) replaced the Basic Skills test. Cut scores for each subtest were established. Scores may be banked. Banked subtest scores achieved on the Basic Skills 300 test can be applied to achieve a passing score on the TAP. This test is offered exclusively in CBT format.

A Brief History of Educator Testing in Illinois

- New tests currently under development include a redesigned Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT), Principal Subtest 1 and Principal Subtest 2.

Computer-based testing (CBT)

- CBT is available at Pearson Professional Centers throughout the world and at third-party sites throughout Illinois.
- For additional information, refer to the ICTS website at www.icts.nesinc.com and to the Pearson website at www.pearsonvue.com/icts.

The ICTS Process

- For each test, a separate Content Advisory Committee (CAC) is established at the beginning of each phase of the program to recommend to the state the design, content, wording, and specifications for the examination program.

The ICTS Process

- In addition, a Bias Review Committee (BRC) comprised of Illinois educators is convened to advise the state on issues pertaining to bias, equity, and cultural diversity, and to ensure that the tests guard against bias while reflecting the diversity of the Illinois population.

The ICTS Process

Test development is an ongoing process, therefore, Content Advisory and Bias Review Committees are invited to meet at various times to participate in item development, review of content, and to set passing scores.

ISBE Policy for the Composition of Passing Score Panels for Educator Examinations

At the April 18, 2012 meeting of the Illinois State Board of Education, a policy for the selection of passing score panelists was approved.

The ICTS Process

The ICTS recruitment website offers educators an opportunity to volunteer to serve on committees. Applications are screened by ISBE to ensure that candidates have the necessary qualifications and that educators from diverse geographical, racial, and educational backgrounds are selected.

ICTS Retake Policy (General)

- Effective January 12, 2010, no individual may attempt to pass the same ICTS test more than five times.
- Voided and canceled scores each count as a test attempt.

ICTS Retake Policy (TAP)

- Passing scores on TAP subtests may be banked. Examinees may also count subtests from the Basic Skills (300) that they passed for the TAP.
- A passing score must be achieved on each subtest in order to achieve a passing score for the TAP.
- Test scores from the Basic Skills (096) cannot be applied to fulfill passing requirements for the TAP.
- Each test administration of the TAP in which an examinee participates shall count towards the five-time limit regardless of the number of subtests the examinee includes.

Program Milestones for which a test is required

- Per PA 97-0607, the following ICTS tests are required at the stated points within a preparation program:
 - The TAP is required for full admission to a preparation program (or ACT/SAT—see pg. 4).
 - The Content-Area Test(s) is required before student teaching, serving in an internship or residency or serving as a teacher of record*.
 - The APT is required for completion of a preparation program (for entitlement).

*The Following Examinees Must Pass the Special Education General Curriculum Test Along with the Applicable Content-Area Test:

- Learning Behavior Specialist I;
- Teacher of Students Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired;
- Teacher of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing; and
- Speech Language Pathologist: Teaching.

Important Information to Note

- Please inform your students/candidates that it is imperative that they input their correct social security number when registering for ILTS tests.
- Failure to input a correct social security number may result in a test score that is not reported for the student/candidate thus requiring the student/candidate to retake the test.

Contact Information

- Questions regarding ICTS testing should be directed to Linda Jamali at ljamali@isbe.net.

Conclusion

- Thank you for attending this webinar.
- The next webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, September 19, 2012.
- The topics for next week's webinar are "*An Overview of Certificate Types and Levels*" and "*Type 73 School Service Personnel Certificates and Endorsements*".
- We will take questions at the conclusion of the entire webinar. If your institution does not offer any School Service Personnel programs, you need not attend the second segment of the webinar. We will respond to questions, however, at the conclusion of the entire webinar. Please join us for the Q and A segment at the conclusion of the entire webinar.