



Illinois State Board of Education

Testing

- Licensure Officer Responsibilities
- Test Development
- Registration
- Test of Basic Skills, Content Area Tests, APT/edTPA

Updates from Best Practices Webinar

- Our Q/A document will be posted to our website early this week, addressing all your questions, concerns, and suggestions. There were a couple of frequently asked questions, including ELIS account creation and ESL Grade Range.
 - ELIS Account Creation: Current practices are more than likely correct. All candidates **WILL** create an ELIS account, regardless of their testing status. Information is automatically created for a candidate who registers for an ILTS test. However, in order to access their ELIS account, candidates still need to “create an ELIS account,” using the “How To” video on our website. The only time a candidate has two ELIS accounts is if they enter different social security numbers when registering for the test or creating the ELIS account.
 - ESL Correct Grade Ranges: B-3, K-4, 5-8, 6-8, 9th only, 9-12
 - Requirements:

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Subsequent-Teaching-Endorsements.aspx>

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Chicago State University	North Park University	DePaul University	Relay Graduate School of Education	Aurora University	MacMurray College
Dominican University	Quincy University	Eureka College	Roosevelt University	Benedictine University	Millikin University
Governors State University	Rockford University	Illinois College	School of the Art Institute Chicago	Chicago School of Professional Psychology	Monmouth College
Hebrew Theological College	St. Xavier University	Illinois State University	Southern Illinois University: Edwardsville	Columbia College Chicago	New Leaders
Illinois Institute of Technology	Trinity International University	Illinois Wesleyan University	University of Chicago	Concordia University	North Central College
Judson University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Loyola University Chicago	University of Illinois at Chicago	Eastern Illinois University	Northeastern Illinois University
Kendall College	VanderCook College of Music	Knox College	University of St. Francis	Elmhurst College	Southern Illinois University – Carbondale
Lewis University	Western Illinois University	National Louis University	Wheaton College	Erikson Institute	Trinity Christian College
McKendree University		Northwestern University		Greenville College	University of Illinois at Springfield

Contact Us

<u>renewal@isbe.net</u>	Renewal, reinstatement, PD questions
<u>licensureforms@isbe.net</u>	Used by institutions to submit forms that were previously sent through mail (such as 80-02; do not use for sending electronic transcripts)
<u>licensure@isbe.net</u>	Used by educators to submit documents that previously could be sent through mail(such as out of state license)
<u>transcripts@isbe.net</u>	Used by institutions to email official transcripts

Contact Us

Licensure Call Center	217-557-6763
Help Desk: IT Department	217-558-3600



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Licensure Officer Responsibilities

Testing

Licensure Officer Responsibilities

- The Licensure Officer is responsible for ensuring that all required tests are passed.
- This applies to both the first license notification as well as subsequent endorsements.
- This fall, ISBE plans to propose new rules that include “Entitlement Audits”.
- [Testing Timeline](#)



Illinois State Board of Education

Test Development

Overview of Test Development Process

- The Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) was developed under the direction of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to meet legal and regulatory requirements in Illinois relating to the preparation and licensure of educators.
- The ILTS program, outlined in Section [21B-30](#) of the Illinois School Code, is aligned with the state's educational law, policy, and practice.
- Testing information can be located beginning with Section [25.705](#) of the Illinois Administrative Rules.

Overview of Test Development Process

ILTS Process

- **Content Committees**: 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.
- **Bias Review Committees**: 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.

Overview of Test Development 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.
- The ILTS 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.
- The recruitment website is located at: <http://www.ilrecruit.nesinc.com/>

Overview of Test Development Process

- **ILTS tests are pilot-tested by individuals currently enrolled in a particular program or individuals who were recently licensed or endorsed in that field.**
- **Pilot testing informs the testing company as to which questions (if any) may need further revision to be included as a scorable item on a test form.**
- **Results of pilot testing are sometimes used to inform the standard setting committee of what revisions are needed; however, this is not always possible if the number of examinees who completed the pilot test is small.**

Overview of Test Development Process

- Committee members provide standard setting ratings based on their professional judgment, their knowledge of the test field, their understanding of the qualifications of prospective educators, and test data, when appropriate, about the performance of pilot test examinees on the test form.
- Staff from Evaluations Systems group of Pearson then calculate a recommended passing standard based on the final ratings provided by the standard setting committee.
- The recommendation is presented to the State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (SEPLB) who then make a recommendation to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).
- Ultimately the cut score is approved by ISBE.

Overview of Test Development Process

Explanation of scaled scores

- Each candidate's raw score, or the number of test items they answered correctly, is converted to a scaled score that ranges from 100 to 300. A scaled score of 240 or higher is required to pass each ILTS test.
- Because the scaled scores begin at 100 and end at 300, they should not be interpreted as representing the percentage of test items that are answered correctly.
- Example: A scaled score of 240 does not mean that 80% of the items were answered correctly. Rather, a scaled score of 240 suggests that the candidate answered just enough questions to meet the score requirement of 240.



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Registration

Test Registration

Important Information Regarding Social Security Numbers and test registration

- **Please inform your students/candidates that it is imperative that they enter their correct social security number when registering for ILTS tests.**
 - Failure to enter a correct social security number may prevent the test result from being reported for that particular individual thus requiring the individual to retake the test.
- **Students must register for the test under the same information as their ELIS account.**
 - Failure to register under the same information results in score updates delayed and licensure issuance delayed.

[Registration](#)



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Tests

Unofficial Scores

- Examinees receive “unofficial” results at the end of the test session.
- Examinees do not receive immediate feedback .
- ISBE cannot issue a license until receipt of the official score report, but this information should serve to inform examinees as to next steps, i.e. what type of remediation is needed, if any.
- Scores* are posted in the examinee’s “My Account” under “Testing.”
- Scores* are sent electronically to each higher education institution the examinee selects and downloaded by an institution contact.
- Scores* are sent electronically from Pearson to ISBE and downloaded into ELIS.

*P, F, or I—Pass, Fail, or Incomplete

Test of Basic Skills

Educator Testing in Illinois

- **Test of Basic Skills***
 - July 1, 1988 - the Basic Skills test was established and was required of individuals seeking certification.
 - September 1, 2001 - an “enhanced” Basic Skills test (096) was first administered. The new test incorporated items that a college sophomore would answer correctly as opposed to an 8th grader.
 - 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.

**Defined as the TAP, ACT Plus Writing, SAT or OOS test of basic skills used for licensure in another state.*

Test of Basic Skills

Educator Testing in Illinois - Test of Basic Skills* (continued)

- April 14, 2012 - the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) 400 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 computer-based testing format.
- July 1, 2015 – an OOS test of basic skills may be used in lieu of the test of basic skills (if the educator passed the test of basic skills that resulted in initial licensure in another state).
- A passing score of the test of basic skills is now valid indefinitely.

Out of State Test of Basic Skills

- **Out of State Test of Basic Skills**

(Effective 7/1/15 – Updated 11/20/15)

An out of state test of basic skills may be used in lieu of the test of basic skills (if the educator passed the test of basic skills resulting in initial licensure in another state). Completion of the [80-02](#) or [80-03](#) form is necessary for verification of completion. A passing score of the test of basic skills is valid indefinitely.

ACT Plus Writing/SAT

Educator Testing in Illinois: ACT Plus Writing / SAT

- July 24, 2012 - the ACT Plus Writing and SAT were approved by ISBE to be used in lieu of the TAP.
- May 6, 2014 - a minimum writing score requirement for these two tests was added to rules.
- See [Revised September 20, 2016 ACT Plus Writing or SAT Score in Lieu of the Test of Academic Proficiency \(TAP\)](#) on Licensure Testing in Quick Links.
- [ACT Plus Writing/SAT](#)
 - **ACT: After September 10, 2016**
 - Composite score of 22 and a minimum of 6 on the writing test
 - **SAT: After March 5, 2016**
 - Composite score of 1110 (Evidence-based Reading and Writing + Mathematics = 1110 Higher) and a minimum score of 26 on Writing and Language Test

Educator Testing in Illinois – Content Area Tests

- September 1988 – content area tests were added.
- Currently, there is no reciprocity agreement with other states regarding content area tests, therefore OOS content area tests are not accepted.
- Content area tests are valid for ten years.
- All content area tests are updated based on rule changes, standard changes, and current best practices.

Content Area Tests

Foreign Language vs. Language Proficiency

- **Foreign Language Content Area Tests:** These tests are for individuals seeking foreign language teaching endorsements.
 - Arabic, Chinese (Cantonese), Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Mandarin, Russian and Spanish
- **Language Proficiency Tests for an ELS Transitional Bilingual:** These tests are for individuals seeking transitional bilingual endorsements, bilingual endorsements, or bilingual approvals.
 - English Language Proficiency, Arabic, Assyrian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Burmese, Cantonese, Filipino, Greek, Gujarati, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Lao, Lithuanian, Malayalam, Mandarin, Nepali, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Spanish, Telugu, Ukrainian, Urdu, and Vietnamese

Content Area Tests

- **ILTS Foreign Language tests (except for French, German, and Spanish) and ILTS Target Language Proficiency (TLP) tests (except for English Language Proficiency and TLP—Spanish) are offered several times a year.**
- **All other language proficiency tests may only be offered once or twice a year because so few examinees register to take these tests.**

Content Area Test Validity

- **Content-Area and APT Tests Validity**
 - Content-area tests and APT tests (101, 102, 103, 104 and 188) are valid for 10 years. Admission does not play a role in determining validity.
 - Per Illinois Administrative Rule 25.720(f) : Validity is determined by the date the individual took the test and the date ISBE receives the application.
 - Exception – Target Language Proficiency Test (TLP), if taken for a previously issued transitional bilingual endorsement.

Content Area Tests are aligned to Illinois standards.

- 20 Endorsements in Elementary Education
- 21 Endorsements in the Middle Grades
- 23 Endorsements in School Support Personnel
- 26 Standards for Endorsements in Early Childhood Education and Elem Education
- 27 Standards for Endorsements in Specific Teaching Fields
- 28 Standards for Special Education
- 29 Standards for Administrative Endorsements
- 30 Standards for the Preparation of Principals

- **APT/edTPA**

(Effective 3/10/16 - Updated 8/26/16)

Effective March 10, 2016, all educators who have completed student teaching prior to August 31, 2015 are eligible to complete either the Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT 188) or the edTPA.

- edTPA became consequential on September 1st, 2015

- [edTPA Fact Sheet](#)

- **Update to Experience Required to Waive edTPA**

(Effective 8/9/16 - Posted 8/30/16)

Effective August 9, 2016, the 3 year teaching experience requirement used to waive the edTPA has been reduced to 1 year.

Out of State edTPA Requirements

- If the edTPA **has** been passed as part of a teacher preparation program in another state, have official scores sent to ISBE and use form 80-01A: Out-of-State Applicant Verification of EdTPA.
- If the edTPA **has not** been passed at the time of application, one of the below options may be utilized:
 1. If the educator meets the requirements for the provisional license (ELS-PEDU) and this license is issued, the educator may complete the edTPA while teaching on this license.
 2. The educator can enroll in the student teaching portion of an educator preparation program and complete the edTPA during this time.
 3. The educator can provide evidence with his/her application of having at least **one** year of full-time teaching experience and having achieved a “proficient” or higher (or equivalent) rating on his/her most recent performance evaluation. Use form 80-01: Out-of-State Applicant Request to Waive EdTPA.

- **How to Submit and Register for the edTPA**
 - Visit [edTPA Fact Sheet](#) for more information about the edTPA including how to submit official scores to ISBE.
 - Educators can register for the edTPA at www.edtpa.com

edTPA Vouchers

- edTPA vouchers were distributed to voucher contacts at each Illinois institution in June of 2016.
- The number of vouchers each institution received is relative to the number of program completers reported in their Title II report.
- The vouchers you received are for the entire year.
- You will not be receiving a second set this fall.
- Each voucher is valued at \$100.00.
- You may determine how to distribute the vouchers based on student need.

Vouchers

- Once a year, in September, Evaluations Systems group of Pearson will distribute its annual total of 4,000 \$25.00 ILTS financial aid vouchers, sent directly to institution contacts via e-mail. Quantities are calculated based on Title II program completer data, and institutions may distribute voucher codes to candidates at their own discretion. Vouchers can be used towards ILTS exam fees (but not edTPA), and each code expires one year from date of issue.

APT test versus edTPA

Common Questions and Answers

- Does an educator need to take the APT or the edTPA?
 - OOS educator: If application was submitted before July 1, 2015, educator needs to pass the APT. Applications on or after July 1, 2015, edTPA is required.
 - In-state candidate: If student teaching was completed by August 31, 2015, he/she needs to pass the APT. The EdTPA is required if student teaching will be completed September 1, 2015 or after.
- Will educators get a refund for the APT if they realize they need the edTPA instead?
 - Refunds are handled through Pearson. Please contact ILTS Customer Service on their website.

Conclusion

Thank you for attending Licensure Officer Training: Testing Webinar. We thank you for all that you do, and look forward to the next webinar in our Fall Licensure Officer Webinar Series a week from today: Administrative Rules.

We will compile and post the Q&A document from today's webinar within a week of this broadcast. If you have any additional questions, feel free to email your ISBE liaison.

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