



PRAXIS II TEST INFORMATION

The New Jersey Department of Education requires candidates for instructional certificates to achieve a minimum score on specific sections of The Praxis II series of tests prior to certification. Information regarding which tests to register for and how to register is available in University Hall, Suite 1160 or by visiting www.ets.org/praxis. Students are urged to take the required Praxis test(s) early in their program.

Undergraduate and Graduate level students in the Teacher Education Program all must submit passing scores for all required Praxis II tests prior to student teaching.

- If you plan to student teach in a spring semester, you must submit your passing score(s) by January 8th of that year.
- If you plan to student teach in a fall semester, you must submit your passing score by August 15th of that year.

For example, students planning to student teach in spring 2010 must submit passing scores by January 8th, 2010 at the latest, and most aim to submit their passing score(s) soon after applying for fieldwork/Clinical I.

The tests that need to be taken and passing scores are determined by the state and are subject to change. "Passing" means a score that is considered passing by the state at the time student teaching begins. Students who have not passed all of the required Praxis tests **and** submitted the scores to the Teacher Education Admissions and Retention Department by the appropriate deadline will not be eligible to student teach as scheduled. Fall student teachers should note that June is the last possible time to take the test (e.g., the July 2010 test date is too late for fall 2010 student teachers).

Follow these steps to ensure that you correctly complete the Praxis II test requirement:

- 1. Determine if and which tests you need to take.** You can find this information on the PRAXIS bulletin board outside UN 1160, at the Center of Pedagogy Blackboard Community, or through the NJ Department of Education (609-292-2070) or ww.state.nj.us/njded/educators/license/1112.htm. Some programs do not currently have a Praxis requirement, but this is subject to change at any time.
- 2. Register to take the test(s).** Registration information is located outside University Hall 1160. You can also call the Educational Testing Service at 1-800-772-9476 or go to their Web site at www.ets.org/praxis.
- 3. Indicate the proper agency codes on your registration form.** Item #12 on the registration form is "Agencies to Receive Score Reports." MSU is one of the agencies that must receive your scores directly from ETS. Use this agency code on your registration form: **R 2520 Montclair State University. The state of New Jersey must also receive a direct report of your scores from ETS – certification cannot be issued by the state without direct scores that indicate the name and social security number of the applicant.** Tests taken in NJ are automatically sent to the state of New Jersey. If you take the test outside New Jersey you must put agency code **R 7666 NJ Department of Education** in addition to the MSU agency code.

4. **Write your social security number on your registration form.** The State will not recognize your scores without a social security number. This is a common error made by students that holds up the issuance of their certification, so be sure to write your ssn in correctly!
5. **Bring a copy of your complete 4-page score report to Teacher Education Admissions & Retention, UN 1160.**
 - Without written documentation as well as direct receipt of your scores from ETS, you cannot student teach.
 - Before submitting a copy of your score report to the Admissions office, check that the information on it is accurate and complete.

The Praxis policy helps ensure that students do not complete their certification program at MSU without passing the required Praxis tests and therefore without being recommended to the State for certification by the University. The Center of Pedagogy offers students Praxis review sessions and other supports to assist them in passing the test. Students who have test-taking difficulties or any other concerns regarding the Praxis tests are strongly advised to take the tests far enough in advance of student teaching to be able to retake a test if needed. Should a student not pass the tests prior to student teaching, he or she will have the opportunity to discuss alternatives with Teacher Education Admissions and Retention staff.