



# Indiana Department of Education

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Indiana State Board of Education

**FROM:** Jeffrey Botteron, Director, Educator Effectiveness and Leadership

**SUBJECT:** Teacher Preparation and Licensure

**DATE:** November 30, 2012

The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership respectfully requests permission to present the following information to the Indiana State Board of Education on Thursday, December 05, 2012:

- Recommendation for the adoption of the Core Academic Skills Assessment and cut scores.
- Recommendation for the adoption of cut scores for the elementary education licensure assessment, 503 I.

### **Core Academic Skills Assessment**

The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership is excited to introduce the Core Academic Skills Assessment (CASA). This test is designed to measure knowledge and skills related to reading, writing, and mathematics that are needed to perform effectively in an Indiana educator preparation program. It is aligned with the College and Career Readiness Standards included in the Common Core. CASA will replace Praxis I as the basic skills proficiency test necessary for entrance into Indiana educator preparation programs.

The department, in collaboration with Pearson Evaluation System, will provide an overview of the test structure, item selection and standard setting processes, and recommended the adoption of both the test and cut scores at the December 5, 2012, SBOE meeting.

### **Elementary Education Licensure Exam 503 I**

Elementary Education Licensure Exam 503 I is a rigorous, yet fair assessment of candidates for licensure skills in the following four areas: mathematics, English language arts and reading, science, and social studies.

The department will provide an overview of the test structure, current pass rates for Indiana candidates for licensure, and recommend the adoption of cut scores at the December 5, 2012, SBOE meeting.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of the proposals that will be presented by the Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership.



**Indiana  
CORE  
Assessments**  
*for educator licensure*

**Core Academic Skills Assessment (CASA) Standard Setting Summary**

**Background.** The Core Academic Skills Assessment (CASA) is designed to measure knowledge and skills related to reading, writing, and mathematics that are needed to perform effectively in an Indiana educator preparation program. It is aligned with the College and Career Readiness Standards included in the Common Core. CASA will replace Praxis I and be one means by which students may demonstrate basic skills proficiency for entrance to Indiana educator preparation programs. CASA includes the following subtests:

- CASA – Reading (32 scorable multiple-choice questions [MCQs])
- CASA – Mathematics (32 scorable MCQs)
- CASA – Writing (33 scorable MCQs questions and 1 constructed-response item [CRI])

**Standard Setting Process.** Evaluation Systems group of Pearson conducted a CASA Standard Setting Meeting on November 16, 2012.

***Standard Setting Panel***

- Sixteen Indiana educators (11 representatives from Indiana educator preparation programs and 5 representatives from Indiana public, private, or charter schools) participated.

***Standard Setting Procedures***

- A modified-Angoff procedure, an industry-accepted method for conducting Standard Setting on licensure tests, was employed to gather standard setting judgments.
- Panel members were asked to “take the test” to provide an indication of the knowledge and skills expected of candidates.
- Following this activity, panel members were trained in making standard setting judgments. Training included a discussion of a candidate who is at the “just acceptable level” of knowledge and skills needed to be effective in an Indiana educator preparation program.
- Panel members made two rounds of standard setting judgments. Following the first round of judgments, panel members were provided their own judgments and the distribution of other panel member judgments as well as a report showing the percentage of Indiana pilot test participants who answered each test item correctly.
- During the second round, panel members were given the opportunity to revise their judgments based on the information provided.

**Standard Setting Results.** Evaluation Systems group of Pearson provided the final results of the standard setting judgments to IDOE. The following table summarizes those results.

Test Code	Test Name	Standard Error of Measurement (SEM)	Panel-based Cutscore -2.0 SEM	Panel-based Cutscore -1.0 SEM	Panel-based Cutscore	Panel-based Cutscore +1.0 SEM	Panel-based Cutscore +2.0 SEM
001	CASA – Reading	2.87	11	14	17	20	23
002	CASA – Mathematics	2.87	10	13	16	19	22
003	CASA – Writing (MCQ)	2.91	11	14	17	20	23
003	CASA – Writing (CRI)	--	--	--	5	--	--



## Multi-State Standard Setting Technical Report

### Executive Summary

To support the decision-making process for state departments of education with regards to establishing passing scores, or cut scores, for the Praxis™ Elementary Education Multiple Subjects (5031) test, research staff from Educational Testing Service (ETS) designed and conducted a multiple-panel, multi-state standard-setting study. The study also collected content-related validity evidence to confirm the importance of the content specifications for entry-level elementary school teachers.

The Praxis Elementary Education Multiple Subjects test is comprised of four, separately-timed subtests measuring core content areas.

- Reading and Language Arts (5032)
- Mathematics (5033)
- Social Studies (5034)
- Science (5035)

To pass the Praxis Elementary Education Multiple Subjects test, a candidate must meet or exceed the passing score established by a state department of education for each of the four subtests. Therefore, the standard-setting study conducted on behalf of the departments of education recommends passing scores for the Reading and Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science subtests.

### Recommended Cut Scores

The recommended passing scores are provided to help state departments of education determine appropriate operational passing scores. For the Praxis Elementary Education Multiple Subjects subtests, the recommended passing scores are:

- Reading and Language Arts (5032):** The recommended passing score is 46 (on the raw score metric), which represents 71% of the total available 65 raw score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 46 is 165 (on a 100 - 200 scale).
- Mathematics (5033):** The recommended passing score is 28 (on the raw score metric), which represents 70% of the total available 40 raw score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 28 is 164 (on a 100 - 200 scale).
- Social Studies (5034):** The recommended passing score is 35 (on the raw score metric), which represents 64% of the total available 55 raw score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 35 is 155 (on a 100 - 200 scale).
- Science (5035):** The recommended passing score is 33 (on the raw score metric), which represents 66% of the total available 50 raw score points. The scaled score associated with a raw score of 33 is 159 (on a 100 - 200 scale).