

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
July 17, 2017

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Section 1012.56(9), Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1012.56(9), F.S., requires the State Board of Education to specify, by rule, the test administration standards and procedures required for the issuance of a professional certificate and temporary certificate. Such rules must define examination competencies and establish uniform evaluation guidelines, test administration policies, and passing scores for the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE).

Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., fulfills the above requirement by providing a description, by reference, of requirements for test administration for the FTCE.

A description of the processes used to make these updates follows:

Test Administration Policies—After intensive review and analysis, the Department has determined the need to update the FTCE test administration and special test arrangement policies to remove the requirement that examinees read test questions and passages using visual or tactile means. With supporting documentation, examinees will be allowed a reader for all examinations containing a reading component/requirement. All relevant manuals, processes, and customer service instructions will be updated to reflect these changes.

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C. and Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) Rule Changes Presentation

Facilitator: Juan Copa, Deputy Commissioner, Accountability, Research, and Measurement

6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations.

(1) through (5) No change.

(6) Examinee with a disability. An applicant who is unable to complete the examinations under standard testing conditions because of a disability may request special arrangements. Such a request shall be made when the examination application is submitted. Lack of proficiency in the English language alone shall not be acceptable as a justifiable reason for requesting a reader or extra time for an examinee. Special arrangements shall be provided for applicants with disabilities.

(a) through (b) No change.

(c) Special test arrangements may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Flexible scheduling. The person may be administered an examination during several brief sessions, as long as that examination is completed on the test administration date. Up to double time may be allowed.

2. Flexible setting. The person may be administered an examination individually or in a small group setting by a proctor rather than in a classroom or auditorium setting.

3. Recording of answers. The person may mark answers in a test booklet, type the answers by machine, or indicate selected answers to a test proctor. The proctor may then transcribe the person's responses onto a machine-scorable answer sheet or onto a computer. In instances where the proctor is required to mark the responses on behalf of the examinee, there will be a tape recording of the examinee's selected responses. A large-block answer sheet may be provided. The person may use a word processor or typewriter to prepare any required essay or other written response. Technical support to operate the word processor or typewriter may be provided.

4. Revised format. The person may use a large-print booklet, a Braille test booklet, or a magnifying device.

5. Auditory aids. A recorded version of the examination may be provided, the examination may be read by a narrator, or the examination may be provided via video with a narrator using oral language or sign language.

6. Assistive personnel. Test personnel may be provided by the test administrator to record answers, sign test instructions, or read instructions and test items ~~other than reading passages and items.~~

~~7. Reading passages and items must be read by the examinee through visual or tactile means.~~

7. 8. Accommodations not covered by this rule may be requested through the Department of Education and will be provided, as appropriate, upon approval by the Department of Education.

(d) through (h) No change.

(7) through (12) No change.

Rulemaking Authority 1012.55(1), 1012.56, 1012.59 FS. Law Implemented 1012.55, 1012.56, 1012.59 FS. History—New 8-27-80, Amended 1-11-82, 1-6-83, 5-3-83, 10-5-83, 10-15-84, Formerly 6A-4.021, Amended 12-25-86, 4-26-89, 4-16-90, 7-10-90, 4-22-91, 10-3-91, 8-10-92, 11-28-93, 4-12-95, 7-1-96, 9-30-96, 10-1-99, 7-17-00, 7-16-01, 3-24-02, 7-16-02, 3-24-03, 7-21-03, 12-23-03, 7-13-04, 5-24-05, 5-23-06, 5-21-07, 5-19-08, 7-21-08, 7-9-09, 6-22-10, 6-21-11, 11-22-11, 8-23-12, 5-21-13, 10-22-13, 2-25-14, 12-23-14, 7-28-15, 10-26-15, 7-26-16, 2-20-17.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
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SBE Rule 6A-4.0021 Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) Rule Changes

State Board of Education

July 17, 2017

Florida Teacher Certification Examinations July 2017 Rule Updates

- Remove and modify rule language related to the requirement that reading passages and questions be read through visual or tactile means.

FTCE Changes: Test Administration-Special Arrangements

- The updating of this rule language is intended to adjust the test administration and special test arrangement policies for FTCE examinees with disabilities, consistent with accepted practices in the field of large-scale certification testing.
- FTCE examinees with supporting documentation from a licensed psychologist or physician will be allowed access to a human reader or software to assist with reading test items, including reading passages.



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