

# CERTIFICATION ALERT

Connecticut Educator Certification News from  
The Connecticut State Department of Education



January 2019

## IN-STATE CONNECTICUT EDUCATORS: 2018 LEGISLATION AFFECTING EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION

### *Public Act 18-34: An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention*

- ***Cross endorsement in an academic shortage area (Section 8b):***  
Educators who hold an initial, provisional or professional level certificate in a teaching area may add another teaching endorsement (cross endorsement) to an existing certificate in select designated shortage areas by obtaining a passing score on the appropriate subject area assessment(s). Additional coursework is no longer required. This provision only applies to secondary level content area endorsements in the following designated shortage areas: Mathematics, Science, World Languages, and Technology Education (PK–12). It does not apply to Bilingual, TESOL, Special Education, School Library Media, or Speech Language Pathology.
- ***Retaking subject area certification assessments (Section 9):***  
Effective January 1, 2019, a candidate who does not meet Connecticut’s passing standard on an educator certification assessment, but who is within close range of the established cut score, will be allowed a re-take the test at no cost to the candidate. The CSDE has entered into official agreements with the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and Pearson, Incorporated, to allow teacher candidates up to two test retakes at no cost to the candidate.

ETS will assume the cost for up to two test retakes per candidate for all PRAXIS® subject area tests if a candidate’s initial test score is within six (6) points of the passing score that the State of

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Connecticut has determined for the given PRAXIS® subject area test or within 10 (ten) points of the currently accepted passing score for the American Sign Language Proficiency Interview (ASLPI), or if the candidate meets any of the following requirements:

- Has achieved an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.5 in the major field of study if the candidate is seeking a license for middle or high school teaching;
- Has achieved a GPA of at least 3.5 in the educator preparation provider (EPP) Education Department courses if the candidate is seeking a license for elementary school teaching or in special education; and/or
- Has received a written recommendation from the Dean (or other appropriate school official) of the EPP for candidates who do not meet the above criteria but who, in the judgment of the Dean, should be granted a re-take of a content test they did not pass on their first attempt.

Pearson, Incorporated, will assume the cost for up to two retakes per candidate for the following tests if a candidate's initial test score is within five (5) points of the passing score that the State of Connecticut has determined for the given tests:

- Pearson Foundations of Reading Test
- Pearson Reading Specialist Test
- Pearson Early Childhood Test

