

Licensure Assessment Test Changes

There are currently no anticipated changes for Licensure Assessments in September 2017. There are several assessments that have started the regeneration/revision process to update to changing national standards. The [ETS website](#) is the most up to date source to ensure the correct Praxis tests are being used.

- **School Leader Licensure Assessments** – A multistate standard setting study will be held in January 2018. The new test is anticipated to be available in September 2019 for Arkansas. The assessments will be aligned with CCSSO Professional Standards for Education Leaders (PSEL).
- **Science Assessments** – A multistate standard setting study will be held in May 2018 (middle school science) and May 2019 (secondary sciences) after regeneration for alignment with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).
- **Computer Science** – A multistate standard setting study will be held in December 2017. New test is anticipated to be available in September 2018. ADE will host a state standard setting in spring 2018.

Commissioner's Memos

The ADE issues regulatory guidance and informational notifications to school districts in the form of a Commissioner's Memo. These memos are posted [online](#) as soon as they are approved for release. [Subscribe](#) to receive notifications on the latest published Commissioner's Memos.

Commissioner's Memos issued for Licensure/Educator Preparation since the June newsletter include:

LIC-17-028 Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure (APPEL) Information for 2017-2018
LIC-17-029 Online Licensure Renewal 2017
LIC-17-030 Novice Teacher Mentoring and Beginning Administrator Induction
LIC-17-031 Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure (APPEL) Program Late Summer Academy 2017

Key Points

Key Points is a monthly video produced by the Arkansas Department of Education to inform the public of key points in the progress of K-12 education. Visit the [Key Points Website](#) for current and past videos. Be sure to share with your educator candidates, as these videos are a great way to keep up with education news in Arkansas.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Be sure to check out the latest on [ESSA](#). The second draft of the plan was released on May 22, 2017. The ADE is continuing to work toward the submission to the US Department of Education by September 2017.

State Board of Education Information

Information regarding the State Board of Education can be found at <http://bit.ly/2hU9qvs>. Agendas for upcoming meetings and documentation from previous meetings can provide valuable information for all involved in educator preparation. Live streaming is also available on meeting days. The next scheduled meeting is July 13-14, 2017.

Educator Preparation Program Approval

The Office of Educator Preparation is accepting proposals from IHEs for new programs or any revised programs of study. For public IHEs, new degree or endorsement program proposals must first be submitted to the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (lillian.williams@adhe.edu). An [inventory of AHECB approved degree programs](#) at all public IHEs is available on the ADHE website.

If a revision involves a change to the name or hours required for a public IHE degree or endorsement, all documents must first be submitted to ADHE. Otherwise, proposals to revise programs from both public and independent IHEs are to be sent directly to Sharlee.Crowson@arkansas.gov at the ADE. [Program Proposal Guides](#) can be found on the ADE website.

Arkansas Qualified Teachers (AQT)

The Arkansas Qualified Teacher requirements replaced the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provisions in No Child Left Behind. More information, including testing options, can be found on the [AQT page of the ETS website](#).

Educator Preparation Provider Reports (EPPR)

The 2017 Educator Preparation Provider Reports (EPPR) have been posted. Statewide and EPP reports can be found at <https://adedata.arkansas.gov/eppr/IHEReports.aspx>.

Rules and Regulations

Rules to implement changes from 2017 legislation are currently being drafted. As rules become available for public comment, they will be posted on the [ADE Pending Rules Page](#).

Welcome

Please welcome Dr. Jeremy Owoh, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Educator Effectiveness and Licensure: Jeremy.Owoh@arkansas.gov.