

Licensure Assessment Changes

Changes have been made to the [ADE’s Licensure Assessments webpage](#) to incorporate the recent changes to Licensure assessments. Be sure to update your shortcuts with the new URL.

[Act 416 of 2017](#) changes requirements for Elementary Education and Special Education K-12 and applies to the following:

- Teachers placed on an Additional Licensure Plans (ALP) for Elementary Education K-6 or Special Education K-12 beginning fall 2017-2018 school year;
- Teachers applying for reciprocity after September 1, 2017, for Elementary Education K-6 or Special Education K-12; and
- Teachers who enroll in an Elementary Education K-6 or Special Education K-12 program that begins in the fall of 2017, and thereafter. (Candidates who started their coursework prior to the fall of 2017 do not have to take the stand-alone reading test.)

According to the Act, the above candidates must pass: 1. Subject matter content assessment; 2. Pedagogy assessment; and 3. Stand-alone assessment that examines the acquisition of knowledge of essential components of beginning reading instruction based on the science of reading.

The following chart summarizes the requirements for Elementary Education K-6

Elementary Education K-6	1 - Subject Matter Content	2 - Pedagogy	3 - Stand-Alone Reading
	ETS - Praxis Elementary Education (5001) Multi-Subjects	ETS - Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching: Grades K-6	Pearson Foundations of Reading
First-Time License	YES	YES	YES
Endorsement	YES		YES

The following chart summarizes the requirements for Special Education K-12

Special Education K-12	1 - Subject Matter Content	2 – Pedagogy (and Special Ed content)	3 - Stand-Alone Reading
	ETS - Praxis Fundamental Subjects (5511)	SpEd: Core Knowledge and Applications (5354)	Pearson Foundations of Reading
First-Time License	YES	YES	YES
Endorsement	YES	YES	YES

Currently licensed teachers are not required to meet Act 416 of 2017. See below for information on Act 1063 of 2017.

Webinars for Foundations of Reading Test Support

The Foundations of Reading test was approved by the State Board of Education to meet the requirement for a Stand-Alone Reading test. Information regarding resources and registration are available on the [Arkansas Foundations of Reading Website](#). Below is information regarding upcoming webinars regarding supports available for the reading test. Detailed information regarding access to the webinars will be forthcoming.

Foundations of Reading *ResultsAnalyzer* Demonstration Webinar

The Evaluation Systems group of Pearson is pleased to invite you to participate in an online webinar “Foundations of *Reading ResultsAnalyzer*® Demonstration”. *ResultsAnalyzer* is a reporting tool that facilitates institutional research at a program level through specifically designed reports of Arkansas Foundations of Reading test results. These webinars are most appropriate for Educator Preparation Providers and Licensure Officers.

- Wednesday, November 8 @ 2:00 p.m. (CT) / 3:00 p.m. (ET)
- Wednesday, November 15 @ 10:00 a.m. (CT) / 11:00 a.m. (ET)

Foundations of Reading Test Preparation Webinar

The Evaluation Systems group of Pearson is pleased to invite Arkansas educator preparation candidates to participate in a webinar on how to prepare for the Foundations of Reading (FOR) test. The test preparation webinars are appropriate for candidates preparing to take the Foundations of Reading (FOR) test as well as for the faculty members assisting candidates in test preparation. Topics will include: how to use test preparation materials; how to read a FOR score report; how to register to test; and how to prepare to retake a test.

- Monday, November 6 @ 10:00 a.m. (CT) / 11:00 a.m. (ET)
- Monday, November 13 @ 3:00 p.m. (CT) / 4:00 p.m. (ET)

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-18-001 Orientation Training for Experienced Out-of-State Administrators and Administrators Returning to the Profession
LIC-18-003 Lifetime Teaching License Changes
LIC-18-004 State and Federal Criminal Background Checks Legislative Update
LIC-18-007 Act 416 of 2017- Teaching Reading Assessment for Elementary K-6 and Special Education K-12 Licensure
LIC-18-006 Act 416 of 2017 Special Education K-12 Licensure Assessment Requirements

LIC-18-009 Educator’s Rising
LIC-18-008 Beginning Administrator Quest 1: BloomBoard/EdReflect Nuts and Bolts
LIC-18-012 2017-2018 Critical Academic Shortage Areas (revision of LIC-17-024)
LIC-18-011 National Board Certified Teachers New Data Required in FMS for Cycles 2 and 6 and NBCT Annual Bonus Payment Chart
LIC-18-013 Act 416 of 2017 -Teaching Reading Assessment Web Page Now Available
LIC-18-014 Arkansas Professional Pathway to Educator Licensure (APPEL)/Non-Traditional Licensure Program (NTLP) Completer Survey 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)

On September 15, 2017, the ADE submitted the [Arkansas State Plan](#) to the US Department of Education. Be sure to check out the final plan and read the submission letter.

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 October 12, 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.

Program proposals for alternative preparation providers (formerly Accelerated Teaching Programs) should follow the [Alternative Provider Protocol](#). Both sets of protocols have been revised to meet

the changes from the 2017 Legislative Session and be consistent with the upcoming rule changes. The Protocols will be presented to the State Board of Education on October 13 for approval.

NEW – Code of Ethics for Arkansas Educators Video

Now available on the [Arkansas Department of Education Channel](#).

Highlights of Legislative Changes that Affect Educator Preparation

Act [1063 of 2017](#) – Right to Read Act

By the 2021-2022 School Year

- Teachers in Elementary Education K-6 or Special Education K-12 must demonstrate proficiency in the knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction.
- All other teachers must demonstrate an awareness in the knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction.
- The Learning Services Division at ADE is working to develop the professional learning and methods of demonstrating proficiency and awareness.

Act [588 of 2017](#) – Lifetime Teaching License

- The applicant must hold a current Arkansas teaching license
 - Be 62 or older, or
 - Be retired from active teaching under:
 - Voluntary retirement at age 60 with 5 years of service or at any age with 28 years of service (Ark. Code § 24-7-701);
 - Early voluntary retirement at any age with combined total of 25 years or more (Ark. Code § 24-7-702); or
 - Disability retirement (Ark. Code § 24-7-704).

Act [564 of 2017](#) – PLSB/Code of Ethics

- Holds non-licensed teachers to the Code of Ethics - those employed under waivers from licensure for School of Innovation, Charter School, or Act 1240 waiver
- Violators will receive public sanctions/ fines at similar levels as licensed educators
- Maximum fine for ethics violation is now \$500

Act [294 of 2017](#) – Educator Licensure

- Greater flexibility in licensing and assessments
- Tiered licensure system
- Ethics training for individuals in alternative educator preparation programs
- Ability for school districts to pay salaries differentiated upon licensure tier
- Rules on State Board Agenda for October 12, then public comment

Rules and Regulations

Several rules are in the promulgation process. This process is described in detail on the [ADE's Legal page](#). Be sure to click on the "Pending" link for links to pending rules and deadlines for comment.

Become an Arkansas Teacher Event

This year the ADE will host the Become a Teacher Event from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza on Monday, October 9th. The event will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 201 S. Shackelford, Little Rock.

Representatives from the ADE will be available to provide information about the teaching profession, as well as assist attendees with background checks and fingerprinting. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet with the ADE, higher education representatives, and alternative preparation providers to learn more about the numerous opportunities and routes available to become a licensed teacher.

In addition, the ADE will be partnering with education service cooperatives and school districts throughout the year to host regional Become an Arkansas Teacher events. These dates will be communicated as they become available. For more information, contact Jeff Dyer (Jeff.Dyer@arkansas.gov, 501-682-6349).