



#112-22

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #112-22**

DATE: June 3, 2022
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Approved Passing Score for the Praxis® Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) Assessment for the Elementary Education and Special Education Endorsements**

The Virginia Board of Education prescribes the professional teacher's assessment requirements for initial licensure as set forth in Section 22.1-298.1 of the *Code of Virginia*. The Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education (5306) assessment is currently required for individuals seeking an initial license with an endorsement in any of the following areas: Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education-General Curriculum, Special Education Hearing Impairments, and Special Education Visual Impairments. This assessment also may apply to those individuals with endorsements in Special Education-Emotional Disturbances, Special Education-Specific Learning Disabilities, and Special Education-Intellectual Disabilities who were advised under previous regulations to meet this assessment requirement for full licensure. Effective September 1, 2022, the Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education (5306) assessment will be replaced by the new Praxis® Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) assessment developed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS), which administers the Praxis assessments. The new Praxis® Teaching Reading: Elementary test focuses on the knowledge and skills a beginning teacher must have to support reading and writing development in kindergarten through sixth-grade students. Built to assess the science

of reading, the test is structured around the five essential components of effective reading instruction as identified by the National Reading Panel: phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

On April 21, 2022, the Virginia Board of Education adopted the Praxis® Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) assessment as the prescribed assessment for the Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education-General Curriculum, Special Education Hearing Impairments, and Special Education Visual Impairments endorsements, and approved the passing score of 159. Through August 31, 2022, individuals may take either the Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education (5306) assessment or the new Praxis® Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) assessment. Effective September 1, 2022, only the new Praxis® Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) assessment will be accepted as the prescribed assessment for the Early/Primary Education preK-3, Elementary Education preK-6, Special Education-General Curriculum, Special Education Hearing Impairments, and Special Education Visual Impairments endorsements in Virginia. Beginning September 1, 2022, the Reading for Virginia Educators (RVE): Elementary and Special Education (5306) assessment will only be accepted for individuals who took and passed the assessment during the period it was prescribed by the Board of Education.

Additional information regarding [professional teacher's assessments](#) in Virginia may be found on the Virginia Department of Education's [Office of Licensure and School Leadership webpage](#).

For more information

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Maggie Clemmons, Director of Licensure and School Leadership, via e-mail at Maggie.Clemmons@doe.virginia.gov or telephone at 804-371-2471.

JB/JJ/mmc