

PAPA Information

Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) PDE Testing Requirements*

*(*Note: ALL Education Majors – Begin with these tests.)*

The Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) assesses reading, mathematics, and writing skills for undergraduate candidates seeking teacher certification in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

All candidates for Instructional I certification are required to pass the PAPA (or achieve the SAT/ACT equivalent).

PAPA information and registration can be found at www.pa.nesinc.com. PAPA is offered through PEARSON.

These exams are delivered as computer-based tests. Each assessment includes multiple modules, each with its own qualifying score. Modules consist of selected-response questions and, for the PAPA, constructed-response assignments to assess candidates' knowledge and skills based on the test objectives.

The PAPA series may be passed by achieving a score of 220 or higher on all three modules, or by the Composite Score Option (see table on Page 40).

PAPA Test Information

Format	<p>Selected-response items and constructed-response assignments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 36 selected-response items • Mathematics: 36 selected-response items • Writing: 36 selected-response items, 2 sentence correction assignments, and 1 extended-response assignment
Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: 45 minutes • Mathematics: 60 minutes • Writing: 75 minutes <p>Examinees will also have 15 minutes for a computer-based testing tutorial. Examinees who take all three modules during a single test session will also have a 15-minute break between each module</p>
Test Dates	<p>By appointment, year round. Test appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis.</p>
Test Sites	<p>CBT sites are located in Pennsylvania, nationwide, and in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Canada. Locate test center.</p>
Qualifying Score	<p>Performance criterion (cut score): 220 per module For information about qualifying scores, visit http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/testing_requirements/8638.</p>
Reference Materials Provided for this Test	<p>A formulas page will be available during the Mathematics module. Review it now. A standard on-screen calculator will be available during the Mathematics module. Review a calculator tutorial now.</p>
Test Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: \$37 • Mathematics: \$44 • Writing: \$37 • All three modules: \$110 <p>Review test fee and payment information.</p>
Score Reporting	<p>Test results for the Reading and Mathematics modules are provided at the test center at the conclusion of your test session. Score reports for the Reading and Mathematics modules are available within 10 days after testing. Score reports for the Writing module are available within 20 business days after testing.</p>
Testing Policies	<p>When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies. Read them now.</p>
Prepare	<p>View the preparation materials available for this test.</p>

Composite Score Option for PAPA:

The Composite Scoring Option for PAPA was initiated to enable a candidate who may excel in one area such as mathematics, but who is not strong in another PAPA area, to receive a passing score on the PAPA series. In order to qualify, a candidate must meet a minimum score in each test area (Mathematics, Reading and Writing) **and** then exceed the passing score by an amount equal to the Standard Error of Measurement in one or two of the other test areas. The candidate's test scores are added together, and if the scores total 686, the candidate has passed the PAPA series. The Minimum Scores required for the Composite Scoring Option are shown below.

Test Name	Test #	PAPA Qualifying Score	Minimum Composite Score
PAPA Reading	8001	220	193
PAPA Mathematics	8002	220	197
PAPA Writing	8003	220	192

Minimum Composite Score Total: 686

Sum of the 3 PAPA tests must total or exceed 686. This total does not represent the sum of the 3 minimum scores. Candidates must achieve the PAPA Qualifying Score (220) in at least 1 (one) area **and** also reach the Minimum Composite Score Total.

Summary of Changes to the PAPA Examinations (as of March 3, 2014)

Time changes

- Two 15-minute scheduled breaks
- 15 minutes of additional testing time for the Mathematics module whether scheduled separately or with other two modules

Fee changes

- All three modules together: \$110 (currently \$89)
- Math module taken separately: \$44 (currently \$37)

No longer able to move between modules

- Each module is a separate test with a break between modules.
- This ensures all candidates will have a standard amount of time for each module.