

Maryland Higher Education Commission

Temporary Statewide Agreement for Associate of Arts in Teaching Candidates in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely and significantly limited a student's ability to sit for nationally standardized tests offered at testing facilities. This includes the SAT, ACT, GRE, and Praxis. At this time, many testing centers are either closed or are providing very limited testing appointments and are prioritizing testing services for health professions.

In order to earn an Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree in Maryland, a student must provide evidence of qualifying scores, established by the State Superintendent of Schools, on the teacher certification tests approved by the State Board of Education (COMAR 13B.02.03.24(D)²). Students on track to graduate in May 2020 or Summer 2020, may not be eligible to earn the AAT because they cannot take the requisite teacher certification tests due to the closure or limited operations of testing centers.

To assist AAT students in this predicament, the following statewide agreement is presented.

The teacher education departments and programs at the 4-year colleges and universities identified below have agreed to defer the requirement for AAT students to pass Praxis I, if the students have met all the other requirements for admission, and all requirements for an AAT degree, as established by the State Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of Education. Students who have been admitted to a teacher education program at a four-year university or college should follow the guidance below.

- AAT students who take advantage of this opportunity are expected to meet the testing requirement for the AAT as soon reasonably practicable once testing centers are providing the applicable test to the general public. An AAT student is expected to report testing scores to their community college as soon as possible so that the AAT degree can be awarded.
- The education department chairs at the community colleges identified below commit to providing an AAT student an affirmation letter indicating that the student has completed all AAT requirements with the exception of the required examination of basic skills. This affirmation letter must be presented by the student to the 4-year institution upon transfer.

This statewide agreement remains in effect until November 1, 2020. On or before, November 1, 2020, an evaluation of the continued need of this statewide agreement will be conducted by the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

¹ <http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/comarhtml/13b/13b.02.03.24.htm> (Retrieved on April 8, 2020)

Qualifying Scores of Basic Skills Assessments²

Test	Test Code	Passing Score
Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (Version 2019)		
• Reading (sr - 85 minutes) and	5713	156
• Writing (sr & cr - 100 minutes) and	5723	162
• Mathematics (sr - 85 minutes)	5733	150
Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators		
• Reading (sr - 85 minutes) and	5712	156
• Writing (sr & cr - 100 minutes) and	5722	162
• Mathematics (sr - 85 minutes)	5732	150
Praxis I: PPST/PPPST (Taken prior to September 1, 2014)		
• Reading (sr - 85 minutes) and	5710	177
• Writing (sr & cr - 100 minutes) and	5720	173
• Mathematics (sr - 85 minutes)	5730	177
		Composite Score- 527
SAT (prior to April 1995) (math and verbal)	-	1000
SAT (April 1995 - December 31, 2018) (math and verbal OR math and critical reading OR evidence-based reading & writing and math)	-	1100
SAT (on/after January 1, 2019) (evidence-based reading & writing and math)	-	1180
GRE (prior to September 1, 2011) (math and verbal)	-	1000
GRE (taken as of September 1, 2011) (math and verbal)	-	297
ACT	-	24

Participating 4-year Colleges and Universities

Bowie State University
Coppin State University
Frostburg State University
Goucher College
Loyola University Maryland
McDaniel College
Notre Dame of Maryland University
Salisbury University
St. Mary's College of Maryland
Stevenson University
Towson University
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
University of Maryland Global Campus
University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Maryland, College Park

Participating Community College

Allegany College of Maryland
Anne Arundel Community College
Carroll Community College
Cecil College
Chesapeake College
College of Southern Maryland
Community College of Baltimore County
Frederick Community College
Garrett College
Hagerstown Community College
Harford Community College
Howard Community College
Montgomery College
Prince George's Community College
Wor-Wic Community College

This list will be updated on a regular basis as more institutions provide agreement to the Maryland Higher Education Commission. (Last Updated: May 13, 2020)

Please contact Dr. Emily A. A. Dow, Assistant Secretary for Academic Affairs, with questions.

² http://marylandpublicschools.org/about/Pages/DEE/Certification/testing_info/praxis1.aspx (Retrieved on April 8, 2020)