

Board of Regents' Policy Changes related to *EveryTeacher*

Certification Tests: BOR Policy 2:16 Student Field Experiences in Education

On June 24, 2003, the South Dakota Board of Education adopted administrative rules to require content and pedagogy tests for teacher certification beginning July 1, 2005. The standards for teacher preparation also were amended to require the use of the state designated certification tests to measure teacher education candidates' content and pedagogical knowledge within the teacher preparation program in their major(s) level of preparation (see below). These rules were also approved by the Interim Rules Review Committee on August 5, 2003.

24:16:05:03 Candidate evaluation and postgraduate studies.

Effective July 1, 2005, each approved education program for the preparation of teachers shall measure candidates' content and pedagogical knowledge required in 24:16:07 and the applicable program of 24:16:08 with the state certification exams. Effective July 1, 2005, candidates must achieve the established passing scores set by the state Board of Education in order to be recommended for certification to the department.

24:16:05:05. Personnel records for candidates.

(7) Effective July 1, 2005, an official copy of all test scores including any subtest scores provided by the testing company on the state certification exams for each subject/area authorization and each age/grade span for which they have completed an approved education program.

These administrative rules allow the issuance of degrees to candidates without meeting the established cutoff score, but they do not allow recommendations for certification in South Dakota without passing scores on the required tests in both content and pedagogy. Recommendations for certification/licensure in other states can still be made as per each state's requirements (some states require the same certification tests that South Dakota will be using but may have different cutoff scores).

Once the state of South Dakota has the test for teacher certification in place, the preparing institutions also will have to begin reporting their pass rates in the major(s) level of preparation as required by Title II of the Higher Education Act (reauthorized as the Ready to Teach Act).

Attachment I contains the approved revisions to Board of Regents policy 2:16 to implement the South Dakota teacher certification exams and requests a modification to the fee schedule for Policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees, 6) Assessment Charges. **A November 2003 modification is included.**

Attachment II provides guidelines for the implementation of the revised Board of Regents policy 2:16 and information regarding an accompanying and necessary modification of the current fee schedule for Board of Regents policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees, 6) Assessment Charges.

A December 2003 modification is included.

Note: Policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees does not need to be revised. However, the schedule of fees will need to be changed to reflect the fact that beginning Spring 2004, students will need to be charged assessment fees beyond the current \$115 for multiple Praxis II tests (Praxis II content tests in addition to the present Praxis II pedagogy test identified in the fee schedule).

Policy Manual

SUBJECT: ~~Student Field Experiences in Education~~ Teacher Education Programs

NUMBER: 2:16

1. Uniformity Requirement

Uniform policies for field experiences shall be followed by the institutions of higher education under the control of the Board of Regents.

2. Schools in Campus Community

For schools located in the campus community, the university may enter into such financial arrangements and administrative policy to obtain field experience facilities and supervision in the community in which the institution is located as are agreed to by the Board of Education of the community and the campus administration. Any payment for administration of the program shall be made to the school district according to the agreement executed and approved by the Board of Education and the campus administration.

3. Schools Not Located in Campus Communities

The campus administration may contract with the Board of Education in a community other than the one in which the university is located for the use of its schools for field experience facilities and services.

4. Shared Use Schools

Where a school is used by more than one university the administration of any state-supported university shall have authority to enter into an agreement with the Board of Education of any public school system to provide field experience facilities and services for its student teachers. Payments to any cooperating public school system or its staff for providing facilities and services for field experience shall be as follows:

- A. Each cooperating school district which provides facilities and services for the field experience program in any state-supported university may be paid an administrative fee; and
- B. Each cooperating teacher shall be reimbursed at a rate established by the Board of Regents for each full-time student teacher supervised.

5. Student Teaching Exchange

Institutions may exchange supervision assignments with other institutions which have programs of study leading to the certification endorsement that the student seeks. This is done on a limited basis and only if the student and both institutions are in agreement that it is in the best interest of all concerned.

6. Compensation Rates

The Board shall set standard compensation rates annually for cooperating teachers, school-based teacher educators and others supervising student field experiences.

7. Placement in Private Schools

Placement of student teachers in private schools is permitted under the same terms and conditions that apply to public schools, except that no students may be placed in schools that have, as a substantial institutional mission, instruction in religious doctrine. This policy is intended to assure compliance with *Stark v. Saint Cloud State University*, 802 F.2d 1046 (8th Cir. 1986), which held that, under the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, public universities may not place student teachers in parochial schools.

8. Assessment

- A. In compliance with ARSD 24:16:05:03, Regental teacher education programs are required to measure students' content and pedagogical knowledge with the South Dakota state certification exams before graduation or program completion.
- B. In the semester before student teaching, teacher education students must take the South Dakota state certification content exam for their major(s) level of preparation. Students must achieve the qualifying score for certification in South Dakota prior to beginning student teaching.
- C. Teacher education students must take the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam in the semester in which they student teach.
- D. In compliance with ARSD 24:16:05:05, teacher education students must submit to the home Regental university an official copy of all test scores including any subtest scores provided by the testing company on all South Dakota state certification exams.

SOURCE: BOR, March, 1960; BOR, January, 1981; BOR, June, 1992; BOR, October, 2003.

Request for modification of fee schedule for Policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees

6) Assessment Charges

Beginning with the Spring 2004 semester, the fee schedule for the Praxis II fees needs to be modified as follows:

South Dakota State Certification Exams (Praxis II Series for content and pedagogy) set at maximum of \$115 per exam*

*Students may not be charged more than the actual cost of the exams plus applicable registration fees as identified in the 2003 – 04 Praxis Series Registration Bulletin. The cost of any additional fees identified in the 2003 – 04 Praxis Series Registration Bulletin (late registration, etc.) will be paid by the student directly and may not be included in university assessment charges. Students cannot be required to pay for the cost of the Praxis I, PPST exam under this fee modification request.

**Fee Payment for Praxis II Content Exams
Education Discipline Council
November 13, 2003**

Students in teacher education programs at South Dakota regental institutions are required to take and pass (once cut scores are determined) Praxis II content exams prior to doing their student teaching experience. The exams are to be taken at different exam sessions, are of varying time lengths, and have different fees associated with them, so that aligning the exam fees for all the content areas with one or two particular courses in teacher education is not possible. Therefore, the Education Discipline Council recommends that teacher education students be individually responsible for the registration and payment of exam fees for the required Praxis II content exams. Students must submit the official scores for the exams to their institutional teacher education department prior to student teaching.

Implementation Guidelines for Policy 2:16 Teacher Education Programs # 8. Assessment and for modification of fee schedule for Policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees

Implementation Guidelines for Policy 2:16 Teacher Education Programs # 8. Assessment

Fall 2003

Pedagogy Certification Exam:

Teacher education students planning to graduate in December 2003 must take the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam on the November 2003 test administration date and submit an official copy of the test scores including any subtest scores provided by the testing company to the home university Dean of Education in order to complete the teacher education program. The office of the home university Dean of Education will copy the test score information and return the official copy of the test scores to the student.

Teacher education students will be advised to take the level of the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam (early childhood, elementary, middle school, or secondary) that corresponds to the level at which they will have spent the majority of time in the student teaching placement by the test administration date. Teacher education students will be advised to take the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam on the last test administration date in the semester in which they student teach.

Content Certification Exam:

Teacher education students planning to graduate in December 2003 *are strongly encouraged* to take the South Dakota state certification content exam (major level(s) of preparation) on the November 2003 test administration date or the earliest possible Spring 2004 test date in order to establish highly qualified teacher status for possible teaching positions in South Dakota and other states.

Students must submit an official copy of test scores for any South Dakota state certification content exams taken including the subtest scores provided by the testing company to the home university Dean of Education before home university recommendations for certification or licensure in any state will be made. The office of the home university Dean of Education will copy the test score information and return the official copy of the test scores to the student.

Teacher education students who student teach in Fall 2003 but who do not plan to graduate in December 2003, *may take* the South Dakota state certification content exam(s) during the Spring 2004 semester. Students must submit an official copy of test scores for any South Dakota state certification content exams taken including the subtest scores provided by the testing company to the home university Dean of Education in order to complete the teacher education program. The office of the home university Dean of Education will copy the test score information and return the official copy of the test scores to the student.

Teacher education students making application to student teach in Spring 2004 *must take* the South Dakota state certification content exam for the major(s) level of preparation on the November 2003 test administration date or the January 2004 test administration date and submit an official copy of the test scores including any subtest scores provided by the testing company to the home university Dean of Education in order to complete the teacher education program. The office of the home university Dean of Education will copy the test score information and return the official copy of the test scores to the student.

If there is a scheduling conflict between the South Dakota state certification content and pedagogy exams for the November 2003 test administration, an exception may be granted by the home university Dean of Education. Students with composite or double majors who will be student teaching in more than one content major in Spring 2004 may take one South Dakota state certification content exam on the November 2003 test administration date and the other South Dakota state certification content exam on the January 2004 test administration date if there is a scheduling conflict between the South Dakota state certification content exams.

Spring 2004 and thereafter. [December 2003 modification on Content Exam Requirements]

Pedagogy Certification Exam:

Teacher education students must take the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam in the semester in which they student teach and submit an official copy of the test scores including any subtest scores provided by the testing company to the home university Dean of Education in order to complete the teacher education program. The office of the home university Dean of Education will copy the test score information and return the official copy of the test scores to the student.

Teacher education students will be advised to take the level of the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam (early childhood, elementary, middle school, or secondary) that corresponds to the level at which they will have spent the majority of time in the student teaching placement by the test administration date. Teacher education students will be advised to take the South Dakota state certification pedagogy exam on the last test administration date in the semester in which they student teach.

Content South Dakota state certification exam:

- **A change in the guidelines for implementation of the Praxis II Content Tests has been made at the request of the Education Discipline Council. Effective Fall 2003, teacher education candidates applying to student teach in the subsequent semester *must take but will not have to pass the content test before beginning student teaching unless a cutoff score has been set for the content area in which they will be student teaching at least one semester or summer term prior to their taking the test. This will allow a lower stakes testing phase in and allow the education units time to better communicate this change to the K-12 placement sites.***

Teacher education students making application to student teach in the subsequent semester *must take* the South Dakota state certification content exam for the major(s) level of preparation in the semester in which they apply to student teach. These students *must achieve the qualifying score*

on the South Dakota certification content exam(s) and submit an official copy of the test scores including any subtest scores provided by the testing company to the home university Dean of Education prior to beginning student teaching. The office of the home university Dean of Education will copy the test score information and return the official copy of the test scores to the student.

Students with composite or double majors who will be student teaching in more than one content major may take the South Dakota state certification content exams on different test administration dates during the semester of application if there is a scheduling conflict between the South Dakota state certification content exams. Students enrolled in content courses for the major(s) level of preparation during the same semester in which they are applying to student teach may take that South Dakota state certification content exam at the latest test administration date in the semester prior to student teaching in that major(s) level of preparation.

Modification of fee schedule for Policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees

The current fee schedule for Policy 5:5 Tuition and Fees identifies an assessment charge of \$115 to students for the Praxis II exam instituted in Spring 2001 (the PLT pedagogy is not identified specifically). For Fall 2003, teacher education students will be strongly encouraged but will not be required to take the additional Praxis II content exam(s) referenced above so the students can be expected to pay for any content exam(s) which they choose to take.

Beginning Spring 2004, teacher education students will be required to take the Praxis II content certification exam(s) at one of the test administration dates during the Spring 2004 semester and must achieve the passing score for South Dakota prior to student teaching in the Fall of 2004. The request for modification to the fee schedule to accommodate the requirement for students to take multiple Praxis II content certification exams in addition to the current Praxis II pedagogy certification exam is included in Attachment I.