

Highly Qualified Staff

Teacher Examination

The Praxis Series[™] Assessments provide tests and other services that states use as part of their teaching licensing certification process. The *Praxis I*[®] tests measure basic academic skills; The *Praxis II*[®] tests measure general and subject-specific knowledge and teaching skills; and the *Praxis III*[®] tests assess classroom performance. For more information, visit <http://www.ets.org/praxis/>.

PRAXIS I[®] Overview

What Are the Praxis I[®] Tests?

Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments (PPST[®]) are designed to measure basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. The reading, writing, and mathematics assessments are available in two formats: **paper-based** or **computer-based**.

Who Takes the Tests And Why?

Colleges and universities may use Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Assessments to evaluate individuals for entry into teacher education programs. The assessments are generally taken early in your college career.

PRAXIS II[®] Overview

What Are PRAXIS II Tests?

PRAXIS II: Subject Assessment tests measure knowledge of specific subjects that K-12 educators will teach, as well as general and subject-specific teaching skills and knowledge. There are Subject Assessments, Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) Tests and Teaching Foundations Tests.

Who Takes The Tests And Why?

Individuals entering the teaching profession take these tests as part of the teacher licensing and certification process required by many states. A number of professional associations and organizations require these tests as one criterion for professional licensing decisions.

PRAXIS III[®] Overview

What Is It?

Praxis III: Classroom Performance Assessments comprise a system for assessing the skills of beginning teachers in classroom settings. ETS developed Praxis III for use in teacher licensing decisions made by states or local agencies empowered to license teachers. Under the guidelines that govern its use, Praxis III may not be used for the purpose of making employment decisions about teachers who are currently licensed.

This direct classroom assessment recognizes the importance of the teaching context as well as the many diverse forms that excellent teaching can take. The Praxis III system utilizes a three-pronged method to assess the beginning teacher's evidence of teaching practice. This includes direct observation of classroom practice, review of documentation prepared by the teacher, and semi-structured interviews.

For Certification Information

- MSDE Certification visit
http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/certification/certification_branch/
- MCPS Certification visit
<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/personnel/certification/>