

**Unit Assessment Report: Assessment #1 State Content Test 2014-2015**

**Instrument: Illinois Certification Testing System Content Exams**

**Description and Use of the Assessment:** The State of Illinois develops and administers this assessment of content to all licensure candidates. Tests are divided into various subareas depending on the content. Cut scores are set by the State and currently a score of 240 is required for passing on all tests. The test is a multiple choice format of 60 to 100 questions. Candidates’ results are sent directly to them and also to the Unit. A passing score is required to engage in clinical practice through student teaching, internship or practicum for all programs. Candidates are allotted five attempts to pass the State Content Tests. The subareas for each content exam are listed in the charts below:

**Content Test Subareas**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Elementary Education** | **Special Education** | **Secondary: Biology** |
| Language Arts and Literacy | Foundations and Characteristics | Science and Technology |
| Mathematics | Assessment of Students and development of programs | Life Science |
| Science | Planning & Delivery of Instruction | Physical Science |
| Social Sciences | Manage the Learning Environment | Earth Systems and the Universe |
| The Arts, Health & Physical Education | Work in a Learning Community | Cell Biology |
|  | Professional Conduct | Organismal Biology & Ecology |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Secondary: Chemistry** | **Secondary: English/Language Arts** | **Secondary: History** |
| Science and Technology | Reading | Social Science Foundation |
| Life Science | Writing and Research | History Common Core |
| Physical Science | Speaking and Listening | Historical Concepts and World History |
| Earth Systems and the Universe | Literature | U.S. and Illinois History |
| Matter, Structure and Practical Knowledge |  |  |
| Stoichiometry |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Secondary: Mathematics** | **Secondary: Physics** | | **School Counseling** |
| Processes and Applications | Science and Technology | | Student Development across Domains |
| Number Sense & Measurement | Life Science | | Assessment, Instruction & Services |
| Algebraic Pattern | Physical Science | | The School Environment |
| Geometric Methods | Earth Systems and the Universe | | The School Counseling Profession |
| Probability & Statistics | Physics Skills, Motion, Forces & Waves | |  |
|  | Heat, Electricity, Magnetism & Modern Physics | |  |
| **Reading & Literacy** | | **Educational Leadership** | | |
| Language, Reading & Literature | | Understanding the Learning Environment | | |
| Reading Instruction & Assessment | | Communication, Collaboration & School Culture | | |
| Reading, Research and Curriculum Design | | Human Development, Curriculum Planning & Assessment | | |
| Professional Responsibilities & Resource Management | | Resource Management and School Governance | | |

**RESULTS:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State Content Test**  **by Program and**  **Degree** | **Undergraduate** | | **Graduate** | | **State Average** |
| **Pass Rate** | **Average Score** | **Pass Rate** | **Average Score** | **Average Score** |
| **Elementary**  **Education** | 100% | 264 | 100% | 265 | 264 |
| **Early Childhood** | 100% | 265 | 100% | 258 | 265 |
| **Special**  **Education** | 100% | 266 | 100% | 272 | 268 |
| **Secondary:**  **Biology** |  |  | 100% | 248 | 257 |
| **Secondary:**  **Chemistry** |  |  | 100% | 249 | 251 |
| **Secondary: English/Language**  **Arts** |  |  | 100% | 273 | 268 |
| **Secondary:**  **History** | 100% | 265 | 100% | 267 | 261 |
| **Secondary:**  **Math** | 100% | 258 | 100% | 283 | 254 |
| **Secondary:**  **Physics** |  |  | 100% | 265 | 250 |
| **School**  **Counseling** |  |  | 95% | 263 | 265 |
| **Reading &**  **Literacy** |  |  | 100% | 271 | 267 |
| **Educational**  **Leadership** |  |  | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| **Totals** | **100%** | **264** | **99.5%** | **265** | **261** |

**Interpretation and Findings:** A review of test scores indicates the following:

* All the candidates at the undergraduate level pass the test at over 80% (82%)\*
* Candidates at the graduate level passed the state test at close to 100% rate.
* In most areas the average score of the graduate candidates was higher than the undergraduate candidates.
* In general graduate candidates have performed better passing the state tests with higher averages.

A review of the annual reports from the secondary programs indicates that the majority of candidates pass the State test although not always at the 100% rate.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mitra Fallahi, Ph. D.