

**Unit Assessment Report: Assessment 10: APT results**

**Instrument: Assessment of Professional Teaching Test**

**School Year: 2013-2014**

**Description and Use of the Assessment:** The state of Illinois develops and administers the assessment of professional teaching to all candidates for initial licensures in elementary, secondary, early childhood, and special education. The cut score, set by the State, is currently at 240. Candidates’ results are sent directly to them and also to the unit. A passing score of 240 is required for licensure.

The APT is designed to assess a candidate's pedagogical knowledge. The tests are based on current and relevant expectations for teacher preparation students and for teachers in Illinois.

The content covered by the APT tests is organized into six subareas:

* Foundations, Characteristics, and Assessment
* Planning and Delivering Instruction
* Managing the Learning Environment
* Collaboration, Communication, and Professionalism
* Language Arts
* Educational Technology

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| **Initial Programs**  | **Mean Score** | **State Mean Score** |
| Elementary Education - Undergraduate | 262 | 265 |
| Elementary Education – Graduate Evening Masters | 277 | 272 |
| Early Childhood special Education- Undergraduate | 267 | 270 |
| Early Childhood Special Education- Graduate | 268 | 270 |
| Special Education Undergraduate | 265 | 263 |
| Special Education Graduate | 278 | 263 |
| Secondary Education – Mathematics undergraduate | 263 | 267 |
| Secondary Education – Mathematics graduate | 269 | 268 |
| Secondary Education – Science undergraduate | 267 | 266 |
| Secondary Education – Science graduate | 271 | 268 |
| Secondary Education – Social Science History undergraduate | 261 | 267 |
| Secondary Education – Social Science History Graduate | 265 | 267 |
| Secondary Education – Social Science Psychology undergraduate | N/A | NA |
| Secondary Education - Social Science Psychology graduate | N/A | NA |
| Secondary Education – English Language Arts undergraduate | 269 | 267 |
| Secondary Education - English Language Arts Graduate | 269 | 267 |
| Secondary Education Average of all candidates | 267 | 267 |
| **Initial Candidates Average** | **268** | **267** |

**Discussion:** A review of the test results indicate that all Lewis candidates passed the test at their first attempt. The average APT score for Lewis candidates from eight programs was higher than the state scores. Most initial candidates take this exam close to the end of their program with many taking it during the student teaching experience. The opportunity to have had time in a P-12 classroom to apply the knowledge and skills and connect theory and practice that is measured on the exam. It is concluded that Lewis candidates are adequately prepared in the area of assessment of professional teaching.

It should be noted that this exam is being revised to be better aligned with the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards and reflect the implementation of Common Core Standards for Reading and Math. Test results after January 15, 2014 will need to be scrutinized closely for any fluctuation in scores and may not be comparable to administrations from 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

Respectfully Submitted,

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