MEMORANDUM

TO: School District Superintendents
   State University System College of Education Deans
   Educator Preparation Institute Directors and Coordinators
   School District Staff Development Directors

FROM: Jacob Oliva

DATE: December 2, 2022

SUBJECT: Updates for the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) and Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE) Programs

The purpose of this memorandum is to notify you of the following updates to the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations (FTCE) and Florida Educational Leadership Examination (FELE) programs: the new Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, 27th Edition, newly approved passing scores for four (4) FTCE subject area examinations, and expansion of eligibility requirements for the Military Certification Fees Waiver program incorporated in the FTCE and FELE rules.

On March 20, 2020, the Department announced test development activities to bring multiple FTCE tests into alignment with the Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Student Performance Standards in K–12 English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. On March 30, 2022, the State Board of Education (SBE) adopted revised competencies for eight (8) ELA-related FTCE tests with an amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), effective June 1, 2022. On October 20, 2022, the SBE adopted revised competencies for five (5) mathematics-related FTCE tests with an amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., effective January 1, 2023. Competencies and skills for a total of ten (10) FTCE tests have been revised to align to the B.E.S.T. Student Performance Standards in K–12 ELA and mathematics.

- General Knowledge Test
- Elementary Education K–6
- English 6–12
- English for Speakers of Other Languages K–12
- Exceptional Student Education K–12

Contact Information:
Phil Canto
850-245-0513
Phil.Canto@fldoe.org
DPS: 2022-161
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- Mathematics 6–12
- Middle Grades English 5–9
- Middle Grades Mathematics 5–9
- Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3
- Reading K–12

The revised competencies and skills for each of the above-listed examinations are available in the new Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, 27th Edition.

In addition to completing the process of aligning the test content to the B.E.S.T Standards, passing scores for the following four (4) FTCE subject area examinations were adopted by the SBE on October 20, 2022: Deaf or Hard of Hearing K–12, School Counseling PK–12, School Psychologist PK–12, and Visually Impaired K–12 with an amendment to Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C. The table below lists current passing scores, as well as the newly adopted passing scores for these subject area examinations, effective January 1, 2023. For further information about passing scores, please visit http://www.fl.nesinc.com/faqs.asp.

### 2022 SBE-Approved Passing Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FTCE Exam</th>
<th>Linked (Current) Passing Score</th>
<th>SBE-Adopted Passing Score</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deaf or Hard of Hearing K–12</td>
<td>58/100 (58%)</td>
<td>60/100 (60%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counseling PK–12</td>
<td>62/100 (62%)</td>
<td>66/100 (66%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Psychologist PK–12</td>
<td>62/100 (62%)</td>
<td>70/100 (70%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visually Impaired K–12</td>
<td>62/100 (62%)</td>
<td>71/100 (71%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lastly, on October 20, 2022, the SBE approved amendments to the Military Testing Fee Waivers program incorporated in both the FTCE and FELE rules (6A-4.0021 and 6A-4.00821, F.A.C.). To align with changes made as part of Senate Bill 896 during the 2022 legislative session, which amends section 1012.59(3), Florida Statutes, the rule amendments waive initial FTCE and FELE examination fees for current members of a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces and for honorably discharged veterans of reserves, and the spouse or surviving spouse of such a service member, regardless of whether the service member has served on active duty. Prior to rule adoption, this change was implemented in practice to align with the statute’s effective date of July 1, 2022.
I encourage you to distribute this information to the appropriate school district, university and college personnel. If you have any questions, please contact Phil Canto at 850-245-0513 or Phil.Canto@fldoe.org.

JO/ls

cc: State University System Presidents
    Florida College System Presidents
    School District Assessment Coordinators