

Preparing for and Taking the Praxis I / PPST (Pre-Professional Skills Tests)

1. The best strategy is to take these tests *early*: spring or summer of 2011. Review all pages of this document to see if you are required to take one or more of the PPST tests in Reading, Writing, and Math.
2. If yes, visit <http://www.ets.org/praxis/> for important information about the PPST tests. Select 'About the Test', then 'Praxis I PPST' to learn about registration, fees, locations, testing options, preparation and more. Registration bulletins are also available in Chafee 701.

IMPORTANT:

- Applicants with disabilities who wish to request testing accommodations need to read the information provided by ETS (<http://www.ets.org/disability/index.html>); call **1-866-387-8602** with any questions. Be sure to seek assistance from the URI Office of Student Disabilities Services in Memorial Union *early*. Requests to ETS for accommodations take several weeks to process.
- *Praxis* tests are only given in English. If you are a test taker whose primary language is not English (PLNE), you may be eligible for extended testing time. For more information visit <http://www.ets.org/praxis/about/bulletin> and see pg. 10 of the bulletin. Under forms, download both Certification of Documentation and Eligibility forms. For help with this process, contact Dr. JoAnn Hammadou: joannh@uri.edu.

The PPST is offered in a computer-based or paper-based format:

Computer-based (CBT): Many students prefer taking the test in this format, as they can choose an available date that works well in their schedule. To see a helpful 7-minute video about the test, visit [Welcome to Your Computerized Praxis™ Testing Experience](#). Call for an appointment as early as possible. The best strategy is to take the computer-based test in spring semester prior to application in January, so if you need to re-take one or more of the tests, you will have plenty of time to attain a passing score. The C-PPST tests in Reading (5710), Writing (5720), and Mathematics (5730) are composed of computer-delivered questions that require selecting a single or multiple responses, highlighting or reordering information, or providing constructed responses. Each testing session is 2 hours to allow time for tutorials on computer use, the test itself, and the collection of background for score reporting. Candidates can choose to take the Reading, Mathematics and Writing assessments as single tests, or as a combined test available in a single testing session with an optional 15-minute break. When you finish the Reading and Math sections, you will find out your score *immediately*; the Writing test is hand-scored, and will be available in about 2 weeks. The *latest date* to take the CBT Praxis tests is January 12, 2012. The CBT testing center in Rhode Island is conveniently located in Warwick:

Prometric Testing Center—5805
2346 Post Rd; Suite 104
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886
(401) 738-9172

Paper-based (PBT): The PPST tests in Reading (0710), Writing (0720), and Mathematics (0730) are each one hour long. The Writing test consists of a 30-minute multiple choice and a 30-minute essay section. The PPST is typically given on campus at URI in March, April, July, and November. Many other test sites are available in RI or out of state. Visit ETS online as noted above. (No walk-ins allowed.) The *latest possible* paper-based test date to meet the application deadline in January is November 12, 2011*. After that test date, the computer-based tests are the only option. Upcoming test dates follow:

July 23rd, 2011 (Register by June 23rd)
September 17, 2011 (Registration available in July)
November 12, 2011* (Registration available in July)

Important—About Test Scores:

*Make sure to create a 'My Praxis' account online at the Praxis I PPST website. ALL test takers, regardless of registration method, will access their score reports **online**. Computer-based test results will be available online in 10-15 days; Paper-based test results will be available online in a month plus 1 day. **Make sure to print a copy of your scores and save them to your hard drive! Scores will only be available online for 45 calendar days; after that, you have to pay to get them!** Please note: PPST scores are *not* sent to URI. Test takers may also print admission tickets (for paper-based testing only, except test takers requesting special accommodations); change personal information; and order additional score reports via their My Praxis account.*

Admissions Testing Requirements for Teacher Education Programs

(as required by the Rhode Island Department of Education)

University of Rhode Island School of Education

	Applying Fall 2011 and thereafter
Praxis 1 / PPST	Math 179 Reading 179 Writing 177 Composite (total) Score of 535 with no test score more than 3 points below the cut
SAT	Critical Reading score of at least 530 Math Score of at least 530 Composite (total) score in these 2 areas of at least 1150
ACT	24 Reading 20 Math
GRE	1100 Composite With no less than 465 verbal and 584 quantitative

Graduate Applicants only:

If you have an undergraduate cumulative GPA of **3.0** or higher, *no* admissions test scores are required.

Resources to help you prepare for the Praxis 1 / PPST Tests

1. ETS Praxis I '**Tests at a Glance**' (free): These are available for both Computer- and Paper-based tests at <http://www.ets.org/praxis/prepare/materials/> and include sample test questions and test-taking strategies.
2. **Study Guides:** These are available for reference at the Curriculum Materials Library at URI campuses, or may be ordered new or used via the internet.
3. **Anxiety Guide:** If you experience test-taking anxiety, the following may be helpful: <http://www.ets.org/Media/Tests/PRAXIS/pdf/01361anxiety.pdf> (on Praxis website).
4. **On-line Interactive tutorials:** Free tutorials for the Reading, Writing, and Math tests are available on a first-come, first-served basis by stopping by Chafee 705 or calling 401-874-4068 or 2564 to obtain a unique access code. They may also be purchased for \$39 per test at <http://www.praxistutorial.com/>.
5. **EDC 279:** This is a URI 1-credit class specifically designed to provide target test prep for each of the PPST tests. If you are concerned about passing any of the PPST tests prior to the January 2012 admission deadline, sign up for Fall 2011, section 2, 3, or 4. EDC 279 will also be offered in the spring semester, and is highly recommended for freshmen planning to apply in January 2013.

Praxis I / PPST: Exemptions, Explanations, and Examples

For All Applicants to Teacher Education

Do I need to take any of the PPST tests?

If you have taken the SAT, ACT, or GRE tests, and your scores meet certain benchmarks, you may be exempt from part or all of the Praxis I/PPST.

If you have taken the SAT

To qualify for a whole or partial exemption, your SAT scores (**Critical Reading and Math scores only**) must meet the following requirements:

- If your total SAT score is *below* 1150, you **must** take **all three** PPST tests, regardless of your individual scores.
- If you have a total SAT score of at least 1150, and both individual scores are at least 530, you do *not* need to take any PPST tests.
- If your total SAT score is at least 1150, but your SAT Critical Reading score is below 530, you **must only** take the PPST test in *Reading*.
- If your total SAT score is at least 1150, but your SAT Math score is below 530, you **must only** take the PPST test in *Math*.

If you have taken the ACT

To qualify for a whole or partial exemption, your ACT scores must meet the following requirements:

- If your ACT Reading score is at least 24, your score is acceptable. If not, you **must only** take the PPST test in *Reading*.
- If your ACT Math score is at least 20, your score is acceptable. If not, you **must only** take the PPST test in *Math*.

Graduate Students Only:

- If your undergraduate cumulative GPA is 3.0 or above, you are *not* required to provide any test scores at admissions.
- If your cum. undergraduate GPA is *less* than 3.0 (minimum 2.5), you must provide passing scores on the PPST tests or the SAT, ACT or GRE as specified on chart.

If I take one or more of the PPST tests, what are the scoring requirements?

The Praxis I / PPST tests have individual *cut (minimum) scores*, and a *composite score*. The following are the *cut scores* for the tests:

Math **179** Reading **179** Writing **177**

- If you take either the **Reading** or **Math** PPST test due to an ACT or SAT exemption, you must earn *at least* the *cut score* for the test you take.
- If you are taking **all three** PPST tests (Reading, Math, and Writing) you must earn a **composite score** of 535 that is equal to the total of the three cut scores.

$$179 + 179 + 177 = \underline{535}$$

Note: It is permissible to achieve the composite score while having one or more individual scores **up to three points below the cut** for that individual test.

Following are examples of acceptable and unacceptable scoring combinations, with cut scores in parentheses:

- **Acceptable:** Math 176 (179)
Reading 179 (179)
Writing 182 (177)
The composite score is 537, and the lowest score is 3 points below the cut.
- **Acceptable:** Math 181 (179)
Reading 178 (179)
Writing 176 (177)
The composite score is 535, and two scores (reading and writing) are *fewer than* 3 points below the cut.
- **Not acceptable:** Math 176 (179)
Reading 179 (179)
Writing 177 (177)
The composite score is 532, and it must be 535 or above. One or more of the tests would need to be retaken so that composite score is 535. Choose the best strategy for you.
- **Not acceptable:** Math 182 (179)
Reading 174 (179)
Writing 178 (177)
The composite score is 534, and it must be 535 or above. The *Reading* test would need to be retaken for a score of at least 176 (3 points below cut).