

PECT Information

Pennsylvania Educator Certification Tests (PECT) PreK-4, SPED PreK-8, SPED 7-12 PDE Testing Requirements* *(*Must have successfully completed PAPA tests.)*

The Pennsylvania Educator Certification Tests (PECT) were developed in alignment with Pennsylvania regulations and standards, including the Pennsylvania Program Framework Guidelines and relevant Pennsylvania Academic Standards. They are used for candidates seeking certification in Early Childhood (PreK-4), Special Education PreK-8, and Special Education 7-12.

The tests in the PECT program are criterion-referenced and objective-based. Criterion-referenced tests are designed to measure a candidate's knowledge and skills in relation to an established standard of performance (a criterion) rather than in relation to the performance of other candidates. The tests are designed to help identify those candidates who have the level of the required knowledge and expertise to teach in the grade band(s) for which they are seeking Pennsylvania educator certification.

The PECT are delivered as computer-based tests. Each PECT assessment includes multiple modules, each with its own qualifying score. Modules consist of selected-response questions. To learn more about these tests, go to www.pa.nesinc.com.

Early Childhood PreK–4

The PreK–4 assessment includes three modules. Examinees must take and pass all three modules to qualify for Pennsylvania teacher certification. You may take one or all three modules at one test appointment.

Special Education PreK–8

The Special Education PreK–8 assessment includes two modules. Examinees must take and pass both modules to qualify for Pennsylvania teacher certification. You may take one or both modules at one test appointment.

Special Education 7–12

The Special Education 7–12 assessment includes two modules. Examinees must take and pass both modules to qualify for Pennsylvania teacher certification. You may take one or both modules at one test appointment.

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PDE Testing Requirements***

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Early Childhood PreK–4

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Format	<p>Selected-response items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1: 36 selected-response items Module 2: 45 selected-response items Module 3: 45 selected-response items
Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1: 45 minutes Module 2: 75 minutes Module 3: 75 minutes <p>Examinees will also have 15 minutes for a computer-based testing tutorial. Examinees who take all three modules during a single test session will also have a 15-minute break between each module.</p>
Test Dates	By appointment, year round. Test appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis.
Test Sites	CBT sites are located in Pennsylvania, nationwide, and in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Canada. Locate a test center.
Qualifying Score	<p>Performance Criterion (cut score):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1: 197 Module 2: 193 Module 3: 193 <p>For information about qualifying scores, visit http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/testing_requirements/8638.</p>
Reference Materials Provided for this Test	A glossary of common acronyms used in this field will be available during all modules. Review it now. A standard on-screen calculator will be available during Module 3. Review a calculator tutorial now.
Test Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1: \$46 Module 2: \$46 Module 3: \$53 All three modules: \$131 <p>Review test fee and payment information.</p>
Score Reporting	Test results are provided at the test center at the conclusion of your test session. Your score report is available within 10 business days after testing.
Testing Policies	When you register, you must agree to abide by all testing rules and policies. Read them now.
Prepare	View the preparation materials available for this test.

Summary of Changes to PreK–4 PECT Examinations (as of March 2, 2014):

Time changes

- Two 15-minute scheduled breaks
- 15 minutes of extra time for Module 3 whether scheduled separately or with other two modules

Fee changes

- All three modules together: \$131 (currently \$110)
- Module 3 taken separately: \$53 (currently \$46)

No longer able to move between modules

- Each module is a separate test with a break between modules.
- This ensures all candidates will have a standard amount of time for each module.