

Delaware Performance Assessment Requirement FAQ

UD teacher candidates who apply for initial licensure on July 1, 2016 or later must pass a performance assessment as specified in Delaware Regulation 290 (the regulation is available online at <http://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title14/200/290.shtml>). The edTPA and the Praxis Performance Assessment for Teachers (PPAT) are the two performance assessments that satisfy this regulation requirement.

- The edTPA is updated by the Standard Center for Assessment, Learning, & Equity (SCALE) and administered by Pearson. Information about the edTPA is available at <http://edtpa.aacte.org>.
- The PPAT is developed and administered by ETS. Information about the PPAT is available at <http://www.ets.org/ppa/test-takers/teachers/about>.

The responses to the following questions provide information about Delaware performance assessment licensure requirement.

- **For which licensure areas are performance assessments “applicable and available”?**
See the [Appendix: Licensure Areas for which Performance Assessments Are Applicable and Available](#) at the end of this FAQ.
- **What are the passing scores for the edTPA and PPAT?**
The passing scores for the edTPA and PPAT are listed in the following table.

Performance Assessment	Passing Score
Praxis Performance Assessment for Teachers (PPAT)	38
edTPA, 15-rubric assessments (all edTPA assessments except Elementary Education and World Language)	38
edTPA, 18-rubric assessment (Elementary Education)	46
edTPA, 13-rubric assessment (World Language)	33

For both assessments, the Professional Standard Board (PSB) set passing scores that are approximately half of the total points possible. These passing scores are a few points lower than the Pearson- and ETS-recommended passing scores. The PSB will revisit the passing scores in September 2017 and decide if they should change them based on the candidates’ data from the 2016-2017 academic year.

- **Which candidates will be affected by the performance assessment requirement?**
There are three factors that impact whether or not candidates need to submit a performance assessment for scoring: degree conferral, institutional recommendation for certification, and state licensure.
 - For degree conferral, candidates who complete degree requirements as described in the University of Delaware catalog (<http://academiccatalog.udel.edu>) will be granted the degree. The degree requirements may include taking and/or passing certification assessments (i.e., Praxis Core, Praxis Subjects Assessment(s), a performance assessment).
 - For institutional recommendation for certification, candidates must complete degree requirements **and** pass required certification assessments.

- For state licensure in Delaware and other states, candidates must have UD’s institutional recommendation for certification. Other states may have additional licensure requirements (e.g., a specified GPA or performance assessment). UD will grant institutional recommendation for up to a year after graduation for candidates who do not pass their certification assessments prior to graduation.

The following table shows when candidates would need to complete the performance assessment requirement.

Student teaching completed	Semester/Session when degree requirements are completed	Is the performance assessment required?
Before July 1, 2016	Spring 2016	No, if application for Delaware licensure is begun before July 1, 2016.
Before July 1, 2016	Summer 2016	No, if application for Delaware licensure is begun before July 1, 2016.
Before July 1, 2016	Fall 2016	No for institutional recommendation, yes for Delaware licensure.
Before July 1, 2016	Winter 2017 or later	Yes
After July 1, 2016	Fall 2016 or later	Yes

- **When should candidates apply for Delaware licensure?**
Candidates must begin the application for Delaware licensure before July 1, 2016 in order to receive a license without passing a performance assessment. The licensure application does not need to be completed before July 1, but it must be completed within 3-4 months of the date that the application is started. This guideline is the reason why candidates who graduate in the fall of 2016 or later must complete a performance assessment this spring if they would like Delaware licensure.
- **Do all candidates in a program need to complete the same performance assessment?**
No. Each UD program will choose the primary performance assessment (edTPA or PPAT) it will require their candidates to complete and can design preparation in conjunction with that assessment. However, either performance assessment is sufficient for DDOE purposes, so programs can allow individual candidates to take a performance assessment different from the one chosen by the program.
- **Why would an individual candidate want to complete a performance assessment different from the one chosen by their program?**
Candidates planning to teach in a state that requires a specific performance assessment for licensure may wish to take that state’s selected assessment instead of the one chosen by their program. For example, if a candidate plans to teach in New York, which at this time requires the edTPA, he/she may wish to take the edTPA even if his/her program is designed around the PPAT in order to avoid paying to submit assessments to both Pearson (edTPA) and ETS (PPAT).
- **Which states require specific performance assessments?**
New York requires the edTPA, and New Jersey will require the edTPA by the 2017-2018 academic year. However, New Jersey will recognize Delaware licensure. So, UD candidates wishing to teach in New Jersey can obtain Delaware licensure with either the edTPA or the PPAT, then apply for New Jersey licensure via our reciprocity agreement.

- **If some candidates in my program complete the edTPA and others complete the PPAT, how will it affect the Performance Assessment metric on the DDOE Educator Preparation Program Report (aka “Scorecard”) for my program (<http://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/398>)?**

The DDOE will devise a formula to combine the edTPA and PPAT scores for the Performance Assessment metric, generating a single score for this metric on the scorecard.

- **Will candidates seeking dual certification (i.e., in the ECE or ETE majors or by pursuing two secondary education majors) need to complete a performance assessment in both areas of certification?**

Dual-certification candidates will need to complete only one performance assessment for Delaware licensure. For example, ETE candidates seeking certification in elementary education and middle school mathematics will need to submit only one performance assessment for scoring from either one of their student teaching placements. This guideline also applies to candidates who pursue two secondary education majors; they will need to submit a performance assessment for scoring from only one of their student teaching placements.

- **Since dual-certification candidates complete only one performance assessment, how will it affect the Performance Assessment metric on the DDOE Educator Preparation Program Report (aka “Scorecard”) for my program (<http://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/398>)?**

DDOE will use a candidate’s performance assessment score in the scorecards for both programs in which the candidate seeks certification. For example, a candidate who pursues secondary English and Spanish certifications will have their single performance assessment score appear in the Secondary English scorecard and Foreign Language scorecard.

Appendix: Licensure Areas for which Performance Assessments Are Applicable and Available

1520	Early Childhood Teacher
1521	Elementary Teacher
1531	Middle Level English Language Arts Teacher
1532	Middle Level Mathematics Teacher
1533	Middle Level Science Teacher
1534	Middle Level Social Studies Teacher
1539	Health Education Teacher
1540	Secondary English Language Arts Teacher
1542	Secondary Mathematics Teacher
1543	Secondary Science Teacher
1544	Secondary Social Studies Teacher
1549	Dance Teacher
1550	AgriScience Teacher
1551	Business Education Teacher
1554	Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher
1555	Marketing Education Teacher
1556	School to Work Transition Teacher
1557	Technology Education Teacher
1558	Theater Teacher
1559	Skilled and Technical Sciences Teacher
1560	Art Teacher
1561	Bilingual Teacher
1562	English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Teacher
1563	Music Teacher
1564	Physical Education Teacher
1565	World Language Teacher
1570	Early Childhood Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher
1571	Exceptional Children Special Education Teacher
1572	Teacher of Students Who Are Gifted and Talented
1573	Teacher of Students with Autism or with Severe Intellectual Disabilities
1574	Teacher of Students Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
1575	Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments
1580	School Library Media Specialist