COMPETENCIES AND SKILLS

REQUIRED FOR

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

IN FLORIDA

TWENTY-SECOND EDITION
Introduction

Effective July 1, 1988, the Florida Legislature expanded the Florida Teacher Certification Examination (FTCE) to include tests of subject matter knowledge in the certification areas (Section 1012.56, Florida Statutes).

On March 28, 1989, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), to include revised competencies and skills for the professional skills part of the FTCE and new competencies and skills for the subject area examinations in the following certification areas:

- Biology 6–12
- Computer Science K–12
- Earth-Space Science 6–12
- Emotionally Handicapped K–12
- Geography 6–12
- Guidance and Counseling PK–12
- History 6–12
- Journalism 6–12
- Mentally Handicapped K–12

This was printed as Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida.

On March 13, 1990, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include competencies and skills in the following additional certification areas:

- Art K–12
- Chemistry 6–12
- Drama 6–12
- Economics 6–12
- Educational Media Specialist PK–12
- Elementary Education 1–6
- English 6–12
- French K–12
- German K–12
- Health K–12
- Hearing Impaired K–12
- Latin K–12

This was printed as Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Second Edition.
On March 26, 1991, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include competencies and skills in the following additional certification areas:

- Business Education 6–12
- Home Economics 6–12
- Humanities K–12
- Occupational Specialist
- Preschool Education N–PK
- Psychology 6–12
- Sociology 6–12
- Visually Impaired K–12

This was printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Third Edition*.

On October 26, 1993, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include competencies and skills in the following additional certification areas:

- English to Speakers of Other Languages K–12
- Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3
- Preschool Education (Birth–Age 4) (a revision of the previous Preschool Education N–PK)

This was printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Fourth Edition*.

On March 16, 1995, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include competencies and skills in the following certification areas:

- Agriculture 6–12
- Industrial Arts-Technology Education 6–12
- Marketing 6–12

This was printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Fifth Edition*.

On August 12, 1999, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following areas:

- Professional Education
- Biology 6–12
- Computer Science K–12
- Educational Media Specialist PK–12
- Emotionally Handicapped K–12
- English 6–12
- Guidance and Counseling PK–12
- Mathematics 6–12
- Mentally Handicapped K–12
- Middle Grades English 5–9
- Middle Grades Math 5–9
- Music K–12
- Reading K–12
- Spanish K–12
- Specific Learning Disabilities K–12
- Varying Exceptionalities K–12

This was printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Sixth Edition*.
On January 29, 2002, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following areas:

- Business Education 6–12
- English to Speakers of Other Languages K–12
- French K–12
- Health K–12
- Hearing Impaired K–12
- History 6–12
- Home Economics 6–12
- Middle Grades General Science 5–9
- Middle Grades Social Science 5–9
- Physical Education K–8
- Physical Education 6–12
- Social Science 6–12

Through the same rule amendment, the State Board of Education adopted competencies and skills in the following new examination areas:

- Exceptional Student Education K–12
- General Knowledge
- Kindergarten–Grade 6 (containing subtests in the following areas: Language Arts; Mathematics; Music, Visual Arts, Physical Education, and Health; Science and Technology; and Social Science)

This was printed as Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Seventh Edition.

On February 18, 2003, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include revisions to the competencies and skills in Professional Education. Through the same rule amendment, the Florida Board of Education adopted competencies and skills in the following new examination areas:

- Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum 5–9
- Physical Education K–12

Additionally, the subject area Home Economics has been renamed Family and Consumer Science. The competencies and skills pertaining to Home Economics remained the same under Family and Consumer Science. This was printed as Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighth Edition.

On November 18, 2003, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following areas:

- Computer Science K–12
- Drama 6–12
- English 6–12
- Mathematics 6–12
- Music K–12
- Reading K–12
- Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3
- Social Science 6–12

This was printed as Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Ninth Edition.

Examinations in the following subject areas were no longer administered after June 30, 2004:

- Elementary Education 1–6
- Emotionally Handicapped K–12
- Mentally Handicapped K–12
- Physically Impaired K–12
- Primary Education K–3
- Specific Learning Disabilities K–12
- Varying Exceptionalities K–12

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On April 19, 2005, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following areas:

- Art K–12
- Biology 6–12
- Chemistry 6–12
- Earth-Space Science 6–12
- French K–12
- German K–12
- Health K–12
- Physics 6–12
- Preschool Education Birth–Age 4
- Spanish K–12

Examinations in the following subject areas were no longer administered after June 30, 2005:

- Economics 6–12
- Geography 6–12
- History 6–12
- Physical Education K–8
- Physical Education 6–12
- Political Science 6–12
- Psychology 6–12
- Sociology 6–12

The discontinued Physical Education tests were replaced by the Physical Education K–12 test, which is required for certification in this subject area. Additionally, the subject area Kindergarten–Grade 6 was renamed Elementary Education K–6. The competencies and skills pertaining to Kindergarten–Grade 6 remained the same under Elementary Education K–6. These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills for Teacher Certification in Florida, Tenth Edition*.

On April 18, 2006, the State Board of Education amended the rule to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following areas:

- Agriculture 6–12
- Elementary Education K–6
- English to Speakers of Other Languages K–12
- Languages K–12
- Middle Grades English 5–9
- Middle Grades General Science 5–9
- Middle Grades Mathematics 5–9
- Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3
- Professional Education
- Reading K–12
- Technology Education 6–12*
- School Psychologist PK–12
- Speech 6–12
- Speech Language Impaired K–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eleventh Edition*.

*The State Board of Education approved a name change for this test from Industrial Arts-Technology Education to Technology Education 6–12 in spring 2006.*

On April 17, 2007, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- Computer Science K–12
- Educational Media Specialist PK–12
- Hearing Impaired K–12
- Humanities K–12
- Journalism 6–12
- Latin K–12
- Visually Impaired K–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twelfth Edition*.
On June 17, 2008, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- English to Speakers of Other Languages K–12
- Marketing 6–12
- Reading K–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Thirteenth Edition*.

On May 19, 2009, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- Biology 6–12
- Chemistry 6–12
- Earth-Space Science 6–12
- Educational Media Specialist PK–12
- Elementary Education K–6
- Exceptional Student Education K–12
- Middle Grades General Science 5–9
- Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum 5–9
- Middle Grades Social Science 5–9
- Physics 6–12
- Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3
- Social Science 6–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Fourteenth Edition*.

On May 18, 2010, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- Guidance and Counseling PK–12
- School Psychologist PK–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Fifteenth Edition*.

On May 17, 2011, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- Health K–12
- Physical Education K–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Sixteenth Edition*.

On October 18, 2011, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- English for Speakers of Other Languages K–12
- Mathematics 6–12
- Middle Grades Mathematics 5–9
- Professional Education

Additionally, the subject area English to Speakers of Other Languages K–12 has been renamed English for Speakers of Other Languages K–12. These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Seventeenth Edition*. 

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On July 17, 2012, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject area:

Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Eighteenth Edition*.

As part of the State Board of Education’s approval of the revisions to the Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3 competencies and skills, the State Board of Education also approved changes to the structure of the Prekindergarten/Primary PK–3 examination. The previous structure of one test consisting of 120 multiple-choice questions has become four subtests comprised of 60 multiple-choice items on each subtest.

On April 16, 2013, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

General Knowledge
Elementary Education K–6
English 6–12
Middle Grades English 5–9

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Nineteenth Edition*.

On September 17, 2013, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

Computer Science K–12
Technology Education 6–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twentieth Edition*.

As part of the State Board of Education’s approval of the revisions to the Elementary Education K–6 competencies and skills, the State Board of Education also approved changes to the structure of the Elementary Education K–6 examination. The previous structure of a composite test consisting of 225 multiple-choice questions has now become four subtests ranging from 50 to 60 multiple-choice items per subtest.

On November 18, 2014, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

Business Education 6–12
Spanish K–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-First Edition*.

The State Board of Education approved on September 20, 2011, the repeal of Rule 6A-4.0233, F.A.C., certification specialization requirements for the Middle Grades Integrated Curriculum (MGIC) subject area. The effective date of the rule repeal was October 25, 2011; the MGIC examination was discontinued after October 24, 2014.
On June 24, 2015, the State Board of Education amended Rule 6A-4.0021, F.A.C., to include revisions to the competencies and skills in the following certification subject areas:

- Preschool Education (Birth–Age 4)
- Reading K–12

These changes were printed as *Competencies and Skills Required for Teacher Certification in Florida, Twenty-Second Edition.*
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* Each subject area is assigned a section number (i.e., test code) for test administrations.
General Knowledge Test

Subtests in the Following Areas:

Essay
English Language Skills
Reading
Mathematics

Section 82
1 Knowledge of formal college-level writing

- Determine the purpose of writing to task and audience.
- Provide a section that effectively introduces the topic.
- Formulate a relevant thesis or claim.
- Organize ideas and details effectively.
- Provide adequate, relevant support by citing ample textual evidence; response may also include anecdotal experience for added support.
- Use a variety of transitional devices effectively throughout and within a written text.
- Demonstrate proficient use of college-level, standard written English (e.g., varied word choice, syntax, language conventions, semantics).
- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from, or supports, the argument or information presented.
- Use a variety of sentence patterns effectively.
- Maintain consistent point of view.
- Apply the conventions of standard English (e.g., avoid inappropriate use of slang, jargon, clichés).
General Knowledge Test
English Language Skills

1 Knowledge of language structure

1. Evaluate correct placement of modifiers.
2. Apply knowledge of parallelism, including parallel expressions for parallel ideas.
3. Apply knowledge of a variety of effective structures (e.g., recognizing fragments, comma
   splices, run-on sentences, syntax errors).
4. Determine patterns of organization in a written passage (i.e., modes of rhetoric).

2 Knowledge of vocabulary application

1. Determine the meaning of unknown words, multiple-meaning words, and phrases in context.
2. Determine and select the correct use of commonly confused words, misused words, and
   phrases.
3. Determine diction and tone appropriate to a given audience.

3 Knowledge of standard English conventions

1. Determine and select standard verb forms.
2. Determine and select inappropriate shifts in verb tense.
3. Determine and select agreement between subject and verb.
4. Determine and select agreement between pronoun and antecedent.
5. Determine and select inappropriate pronoun shifts.
6. Determine and select clear pronoun references.
7. Determine and select pronoun case forms (e.g., subjective, objective, possessive).
8. Evaluate the correct use of adjectives and adverbs.
9. Determine and select appropriate comparative and superlative degree forms.
10. Demonstrate command of standard spelling conventions.
11. Demonstrate command of standard punctuation.

12. Demonstrate command of standard capitalization.
General Knowledge Test
Reading

1  Knowledge of key ideas and details based on text selections
   1. Identify textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from text.
   2. Identify explicit meaning and details within text.
   3. Determine inferences and conclusions based on textual evidence.
   4. Discriminate among inferences, conclusions, and assumptions based on textual evidence.
   5. Determine and analyze the development of central ideas or themes from one or more texts.
   6. Summarize one or more texts using key supporting ideas and details.
   7. Determine how and why specific individuals, events, and ideas develop based on textual evidence.
   8. Determine the cause and effect relationship(s) among individuals, events, and ideas based on textual evidence.

2  Knowledge of craft and structure based on text selections
   1. Interpret the meaning of words and phrases as used in text (e.g., figurative language, connotative language, technical meanings).
   2. Analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
   3. Analyze how the author uses organization and text structure(s) to convey meaning.
   4. Contrast the point of view of two or more authors on the same topic by analyzing their claims, reasoning, and evidence.
   5. Analyze how point of view and purpose shape the content and style of text.

3  Knowledge of the integration of information and ideas based on text selections
   1. Evaluate and relate content presented in diverse formats.
   2. Evaluate specific claims in text based on relevancy, sufficiency, and validity of reasoning.
3. Synthesize information from a range of texts to develop a coherent explanation of a process, phenomenon, concept, or theme.

4. Analyze multiple texts to differentiate approaches authors take to develop similar themes (e.g., mode, author’s craft, genre, point of view).
General Knowledge Test
Mathematics

1  Knowledge of number sense, concepts, and operations
   1. Compare real numbers and identify their location on a number line.
   2. Solve real-world problems involving the four operations with rational numbers.
   3. Evaluate expressions involving order of operations.

2  Knowledge of geometry and measurement
   1. Identify and classify simple two- and three-dimensional figures according to their mathematical properties.
   2. Solve problems involving ratio and proportion (e.g., scaled drawings, models, real-world scenarios).
   3. Determine an appropriate measurement unit and form (e.g., scientific notation) for real-world problems involving length, area, volume, or mass.
   4. Solve real-world measurement problems including fundamental units (e.g., length, mass, time), derived units (e.g., miles per hour, dollars per gallon), and unit conversions.

3  Knowledge of algebraic thinking and the coordinate plane
   1. Determine whether two algebraic expressions are equivalent by applying properties of operations or equality.
   2. Identify an algebraic expression, equation, or inequality that models a real-world situation.
   3. Solve equations and inequalities (e.g., linear, quadratic) graphically or algebraically.
   4. Determine and solve equations or inequalities, graphically or algebraically, in real-world problems.
   5. Graph and interpret a linear equation in real-world problems (e.g., use data to plot points, explain slope and y-intercept, determine additional solutions).
   6. Identify relations that satisfy the definition of a function.
   7. Compare the slopes of two linear functions represented algebraically and graphically.
4 Knowledge of probability, statistics, and data interpretation

1. Analyze data presented in various forms (e.g., histograms, bar graphs, circle graphs, pictographs, line plots, tables) to solve problems.

2. Analyze and evaluate how the presentation of data can lead to different or inappropriate interpretations in the context of a real-world situation.

3. Calculate range, mean, median, and mode of data sets.

4. Interpret the meaning of measures of central tendency (i.e., mean, median, mode) and dispersion (i.e., range, standard deviation) in the context of a real-world situation.

5. Analyze and evaluate how the selection of statistics (e.g., mean, median, mode) can lead to different or inappropriate interpretations in the context of a real-world situation.

6. Solve and interpret real-world problems involving probability using counting procedures, tables, and tree diagrams.

7. Infer and analyze conclusions from sample surveys, experiments, and observational studies.