

HOW TO READ YOUR SCORE REPORT CONTENT SPECIALTY TESTS (CSTs)

General Information

This report provides your scores for the New York State Teacher Certification Examinations™ (NYSTCE®) that you took on the test date indicated on the report. For each test that you took, the report specifies the minimum passing score, whether or not you met the minimum passing score, your total test score, and your general performance on each competency of the test.

Total Score and Test Status

The total test score is based on the number of selected-response questions answered correctly and the score(s) on the constructed-response question(s) on the test. The minimum passing score for each test was established by the New York State Commissioner of Education with input from New York State educators and is designed to reflect the minimum level of knowledge and skills required to be an effective educator in New York State public schools.

To achieve consistency in reporting, total test scores are converted to a common scale. These scaled scores range from 400 to 600, with a scaled score of 520 representing the minimum passing score. If your test status is reported as "Pass," your total scaled score is 520 or higher. If your test status is reported as "Did Not Pass," your total scaled score is below 520. The total score is reported to you in order to provide information that you can use, along with the information on the rest of the report, in preparing to retake the test.

Candidates who score within 0.5 standard error of measurement (SEM) of the passing score on a required content knowledge NYSTCE will have an (*) after their Total Score. These candidates may be eligible to apply for a certification exam waiver. The application and further information about the waiver process is available on the NYSTCE website.

Use of Test Scores

Candidates are not obligated to provide potential employers with copies of NYSTCE score reports.

Detailed Performance Information

Performance indices are provided for each competency of the test. These indices are designed to help you understand your areas of strength and weakness. Performance indices for the competencies noted with an asterisk (*) are provided as guides only and may not be used as predictors of future performance on these competencies because of the small number of test items on these competencies.

Performance Index Definitions

- ++++ Performance on the skills and knowledge is well above the level represented by the minimum passing score.
- +++ Performance on the skills and knowledge is just at or above the level represented by the minimum passing score.
- ++ Performance on the skills and knowledge is just below the level represented by the minimum passing score.
- + Performance on the skills and knowledge is well below the level represented by the minimum passing score.

Reading Your Score Report: A Sample

Below is a sample score report.

SCORE REPORT

Test Date: September 1, 20XX

TEST: 003 English Language Arts	TOTAL SCORE: 500
STATUS: Did Not Pass	MINIMUM PASSING SCORE: 520

Component	Performance Index
Selected-Response	
001 Reading Literature	+
002 Reading Informational Text	++
003 Writing Arguments	+
004 Writing Informative and Explanatory Texts	+
005 Writing Narratives	+
006 Researching to Build and Present Knowledge	++
007 Speaking and Listening	+++
008 Language	+
Constructed-Response	
009 Pedagogical Content Knowledge	+

According to this sample score report, the candidate did not pass the test. The candidate's total scaled test score of 500 did not meet the minimum passing score of 520. The candidate's highest results were for the Speaking and Listening competency (+++ or at or above the level represented by the minimum passing score) while the lowest results were for the Reading Literature, Writing Arguments, Writing Informative and Explanatory Texts, Writing Narratives, Language, and Pedagogical Content competencies (+ or well below the level represented by the minimum passing score).

Reporting of Scores

Your test scores have been reported to the New York State Education Department (NYSED), where they will be added to your certification application file automatically. Keep this official score report in your permanent records, as you will not be able to obtain a replacement copy from NYSED. Your test scores have also been reported to the New York State institution that you indicated when you registered, unless you provided written notification when you registered that your scores should not be released to that institution.

Retaking a Test

Candidates who do not pass a test may retake it as often as necessary until a passing score is achieved. Consult the NYSTCE website at www.nystce.nesinc.com for information about registering.

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