

# Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching: Grades 7-12 and the Practitioner Occupational License

## Questions & Answers

According to the State Board Education's [Educator Licensure Policy 5.502](#) and [Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105](#), all educators in Tennessee who are completing a job-embedded preparation program must submit qualifying scores on an assessment of pedagogical knowledge to renew or advance the occupational practitioner license.

Educators completing job-embedded preparation who are issued a practitioner occupational license on or after July 1, 2018, will be required to submit qualifying scores on the Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT): Grades 7-12 exam in order to renew or advance their practitioner occupational license.

### **1. What is the PLT?**

The Praxis Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT) is an assessment developed and administered by Educational Testing Service (ETS). The PLT is designed to assess a new teacher's knowledge of educational practices foundational to beginning a career as an educator. The PLT does not assess subject area knowledge.

### **2. Why do educators have to take the PLT?**

According to [Educator Licensure Policy 5.502](#), any educator enrolled in a job-embedded program who seeks to renew or advance their practitioner teacher or practitioner occupational license must complete an educator preparation program and submit qualifying scores on all required assessments during the validity period of the initial issuance of the practitioner license. The PLT for Grades 7-12 is the required pedagogical assessment for teachers with a practitioner occupational license.

### **3. When do educators have to take the PLT?**

In order to renew the practitioner occupational license or advance to the professional occupational license, educators must submit a qualifying score on the PLT prior to the expiration of the practitioner occupational license. For example, if a practitioner occupational license was issued on Aug. 31, 2018, a qualifying score on the PLT must be submitted prior to the expiration date of the license, which in this example would be Aug. 31, 2021. It is recommended that educators take the PLT upon or near completion of their educator preparation program coursework.

### **4. How do I register to take the PLT?**

All registration and Tennessee testing center information can be found on the [ETS Registration web page](#). When you register for a test, be sure to indicate that Tennessee should receive your scores.

### **5. How much does it cost to take PLT?**

Fees and other information about the test can be found on the [ETS Praxis web page](#).

### **6. What is the qualifying score, and what happens if an educator does not pass the PLT?**

For qualifying score information, visit the [ETS Praxis web page](#). Please refer to the [ETS retake policy for information on retaking the exam](#). Educators must submit qualifying scores prior to renewing or advancing a practitioner occupational license.

With questions related to occupational licensure requirements, contact [Educator.Preparation@tn.gov](mailto:Educator.Preparation@tn.gov).