

**Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105**

---

**The Background:**

To become a licensed educator in Tennessee, individuals must demonstrate both content and pedagogical competencies through assessments.

The Reading Specialist and Middle Grades Science 6-8 assessments were regenerated by the testing vendor ETS. The currently approved assessments will no longer be available to prospective educators starting September 1, 2021. This final read item adds new cut scores and codes for assessments in these two endorsement areas. The cut scores are set at the nationally recommended value.

This item also clarifies assessment requirements to align with revisions approved on the Educator Licensure rule at the July 1<sup>st</sup> special called meeting.

**The Fiscal Analysis Impact:**

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

**Policy Justification:**

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends approval of this item on first and final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.