

**Division of Professional Education and Teacher Quality**  
**Email Update**  
**July 18, 2016**

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**BASIC SKILLS MATH SCORE ADJUSTMENT:**

Effective immediately and retroactively PDE has adjusted the PAPA and Core Academic Basic Skills passing score by -1 SEM. PDE made the change after careful study of basic skills results over time on multiple assessments and available research. Our goal continues to be identifying strong education candidates through a fair assessment system. To this end, we have four basic skills assessment systems (see attached document), the mixing of assessment scores to prevent unnecessary retesting and the adjustment of the math basic skills assessment based on experience and research. The new passing scores are:

- 193 for the PAPA Basic Skills Mathematics (test 8002)
- 142 for the Core Academic Skills for Educators: Mathematics (test 5732)

**Candidates should not re-take the test if they have already achieved a passing score under the new standards.** Pearson will update their website on July 25, 2016. The Passed/Not Passed status for all candidates who have already tested since the inception of the test will be updated in their personal account on the PECT website (PECT 'My Account'). For example, candidates with a scaled score from 193 to 219 on PAPA Module 2 will have their status changed from "Not Passed" to "Passed."

Individuals who have now passed can contact the Bureau through the call center, help desk or live chat if that is the only requirement remaining for certification.

ETS has already taken all steps necessary to score and report on the new math scores. We have attached the plan of action provided by Pearson to this email.

**NEW PDE HIGHER EDUCATION LIAISON:**

Jamal Wakeem has joined the Division of Professional Education and Teacher Quality as a Higher Education Liaison. Jamal has been leading the Major Review pilot process. The providers assigned to Jamal were notified separately. Jamal's other responsibilities include:

- Coordinating the Title II Report
- Coordinating Program Review process.
- Serving as the CAEP contact for the Bureau.

We hope to add another liaison by the end of August.

## **STANDARDS ALIGNED SYSTEM (SAS) ANNUAL INSTITUTE REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS:**

The 2016 SAS Institute is scheduled for December 4, 5, and 6, 2016 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. This year's theme is: Personalized Learning: Empowering Teachers. The purpose of this year's institute is to offer educators an opportunity to deepen their understanding about how this methodology can promote success for all students.

The conference planning team is assembling speakers from across the country to share expertise. This year we are trying something new in that we are asking you to consider nominating any educators districts, buildings or Institution of Higher Education that are modeling some key aspect of personalized learning strategically and successfully. In your role, you often have first-hand knowledge of such exemplars.

Complete the nomination form by providing contact information (email, phone) and a brief description of the strategy you have identified. Nominations are due no later than August 1, 2016. The nomination form is attached to this email update.

## **MAJOR REVIEW UPDATE:**

We are pleased to announce that out of 244 applications submitted, 81% have been approved. Five Program providers have completed the major review process and have had all of their programs approved.