



The UNIVERSITY of  
WEST ALABAMA

*-College of Education-*

June 10, 2024

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** UWA Students Enrolled in Programs Requiring Praxis II for Certification  
**FROM:** Dr. Courtney Vick, UWA Certification Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Discontinuation of -1SEM Scores

On July 13, 2022, the ALSDE released a memorandum allowing Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) to accept test scores that met a [-1 Standard Error of Measure \(-1SEM\)](#). This option was a temporary solution to offset the statewide teacher shortage. This option will expire on June 30, 2024.

Individuals seeking certification through an Alabama Educator Preparation Program must have met the following requirements in order to be recommended for certification using the -1SEM score:

- Must have been Unconditionally Admitted to the Educator Preparation Program on or before June 30, 2024.
  - For most programs, your unconditional admission date can be found on Self-Service → Academics → Test Summary → Other Tests → TEP Uncond Admission. If you are unable to find this information or have questions, please contact your advisor for assistance.
- Must have achieved the -1SEM score on the required Praxis on or before June 30, 2024.
- Must meet the required score on Foundations of Reading (where applicable) and edTPA.
- Must have a teaching field GPA of 2.75 or higher.
- Your NAL (recommendation for certification) and application fee must be received in the Educator Assessment Section of the Alabama State Department of Education within 48 months of the date of unconditional admission.
  - Note, the [Application for Certification](#) should not be submitted until you are within one semester of meeting degree requirements. Example, if you are graduating in December, you can submit the application beginning in August.
  - If you are bordering on the 48-month time frame between your application for certification and your recommendation being sent to the ALSDE, please be sure you let us know so we can expedite your application. Note, we cannot expedite the posting of your degree as those are only processed on dates set by the Registrar's Office.

For additional information regarding Praxis II requirements, please visit UWA Certification Office's [Alabama Educator Certification Testing Program](#) page. If you still have questions, feel free to contact [certification@uwa.edu](mailto:certification@uwa.edu).

Thank you!

Dr. Courtney Vick