

WEST & NES Information & Resources

WHY DO I NEED TO TAKE THESE TESTS?

The Washington State Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) requires any Route 2, 3 or 4 candidates in an alternative routes program to attempt the basic skills and subject matter assessments prior to starting the program, and to pass the assessments prior to program completion. To find out more about this requirement, refer to the [PESB website](#). In Washington State, these assessments are the Washington Educator Skills Tests (WEST) and National Evaluation Series (NES) tests. Refer to the WEST website for testing details: <http://www.west.nesinc.com/Home.aspx>.

WHAT TESTS DO I NEED TO TAKE?

Route 2, 3 & 4 candidates must take the following tests before program admission:

- The **WEST-Basic (WEST-B)**, which includes sections on Reading, Mathematics and Writing.
 - There are acceptable alternatives to taking the WEST-B, including providing ACT and SAT scores. Refer to [PESB's WEST-B alternatives webpage](#) for details.
 - There are no longer passing score ranges required for the WEST-B test
- The **WEST-Endorsement (WEST-E) or NES test** in desired endorsement area. If applying for a dual endorsement program, you only need to take the WEST-E test (SPED or ELL) by the application deadline, and you can take the NES test (Elementary Education or Reading) at a later date.
 - [WEST-E Special Education \(070\)](#)
 - [WEST-E English Language Learner \(051\)](#)
 - [NES Elementary Education: Subtests I & II \(102/103\)](#)
 - [NES Essential Components of Elementary Reading Instruction \(104\)](#)

All candidates must pass the WEST-E or NES test in desired endorsement area(s) prior to program completion.

Refer to the ESD-U ['Endorsement Pathway Diagram'](#) for a breakdown of which tests you need to take.

HOW DO I TAKE THE TESTS?

To view pricing details, schedule your test, identify available testing locations, and view available testing slots, refer to the [WEST website](#). ESD 112 is not a testing location for the WEST/NES tests. Test prices range from \$95-\$155 per test.

WHEN DO I TAKE THE TESTS?

Scores or proof of test attempts are due to ESD-U by May 1, 2020. If you don't pass the test the first time, you are able to retake the test, however you need to pay each time. Additionally, there is a 30-45 day waiting period before you are able to retake the test. You receive your test scores immediately, with the exception of the WEST-B Writing test, which takes 4-6 weeks to be scored. Passing test scores do not expire.

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HOW CAN I PREPARE FOR THE TESTS?

ESD-U candidates who have taken and passed the tests strongly recommend studying for the tests, and taking practice tests. Test preparation materials are available on the [WEST website](#) for each test, and you can locate additional test preparation materials online (see resources below). The ESD-U program has a limited number of study guides available for check-out at the ESD 112, contact [Alissa Jolly](#) if you would like to borrow one. We only check-out one guide at a time, per person. The ESD-U program may host test preparation sessions in the early spring, and they will be advertised once they are finalized.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Websites that provide online resources for multiple WEST & NES tests:

- [WEST Website](#): Includes test content, sample questions, video tutorials, and testing strategies.
- [Quizlet](#): Search by test name to find pre-made flash cards. Create a free account for full access.
- [Mometrix Test Preparation](#): Includes review videos, practice tests, and can purchase study guides and flashcards.
- [Study.com](#): Includes video lessons, practice tests, study materials, etc. For access to full materials, will need to create an account.
- [ExamEdge](#): Includes a free sample test, and can purchase more practice tests (appx \$50 for 5 tests).

Preparation materials on WEST website:

- [WEST-B Preparation Materials](#)
- [WEST-E SPED Preparation Materials](#)
- [WEST-E ELL Preparation Materials](#)
- [NES Elementary Education Preparation](#)
- [NES Essential Components of Elem. Reading Instruction Preparation Materials](#)

Practice tests and preparation materials for WEST-B test:

- [WEST-B Preparation Canvas course](#) created by Yakima Valley College, in cooperation with the Washington State Center of Excellence for Careers in Education. Includes test overview, study skills, testing strategies, and walkthrough PowerPoint study materials.

Practice tests for endorsement testing in other states: Please note, these documents include information about educator testing in other states. Refer to practice test sections and answer rationale/analysis sections.

- [Texas TExES SPED EC-12 Preparation Manual](#)
- [Texas TExES ESL \(ELL\) Preparation Manual](#)
- [Texas TExES Core Subjects EC-6 \(Elem Ed\) Preparation Manual](#)
- [Texas TExES Reading Specialist Preparation Manual](#)
- [Pennsylvania Education Certification Test SPED PreK-8 – Practice Test](#)
- [Pennsylvania Education Certification Test SPED 7-12 – Practice Test](#)
- Massachusetts MTEL ESL (ELL) [Practice Test](#) & [Question Analysis](#)
- Massachusetts MTEL Foundations of Reading [Practice Test](#) & [Question Analysis](#)
- Massachusetts MTEL General Curriculum Multi-Subject (Elem Ed) [Practice Test](#) & [Question Analysis](#)
- Massachusetts MTEL General Curriculum Math (Elem Ed) [Practice Test](#) & [Question Analysis](#)

If you have feedback on these resources or find other helpful resources, feel free to contact us!

This document was created by the ESD-U program.

If you have questions regarding the WEST/NES tests, contact Alissa Jolly, alissa.jolly@esd112.org, 360-952-3424.