

Initial Teacher Education Student Performance on Licensing Exams

2016 – 17 Cohort Data on Content Specialty Tests (CST)

Content Specialty Tests (CST) are part of the New York State Teacher Certification Exams (NYSTCE) that are requirements of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) for the issuance of an Initial Teacher Certificate. Due to the roll out of new exams and safety nets, students had options to take old or new exams.

Old Content Specialty Tests were administered in all other content areas for this reporting period. NYSED established a score of 220 as the threshold for passing the old battery of CST with a maximum possible score of 300.

For the new batteries of CST in English Language Arts, English for Speakers of Other Languages and Mathematics, scores are reported in the range from 400 to 600. The minimum passing score for each test is 520. For the new Multi-Subject CST, scores are reported in the range from 400 to 600. The minimum passing score for each test is 520.

The following table provides aggregate data for the new and old CST. A total of 29 program completers took at least one CST and all students who took the exam passed.

CST Format	Content Specialty Area	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Pass Rate
CST Old	Music	2	232	253	242.50	100%
	Physics	1	269	269	269.00	100%
	Total	3	232	269	255.75	100%
CST New	English Language Arts	5	527	569	548.80	100%
	Mathematics	3	532	592	565.67	100%
	English for Speakers of Another Language	9	535	585	564.33	100%
	Social Studies	5	538	565	548.00	100%
	Total	22	527	592	556.70	100%
CST Multi-Subject Old	Multi-Subject (Total)	3	246	280	258.67	100%
CST Multi-Subject New	Early Childhood Literacy and ELA	5	504	565	540.40	80%
	Early Childhood 2 Mathematics	5	451	560	532.40	80%
	Childhood Literacy and ELA	6	521	565	540.83	100%
	Childhood Mathematics	8	511	577	541.25	88%
	Arts and Sciences	5	534	581	561.80	100%
	Total	29	451	581	543.34	90%