

PRAXIS II & PLACE Licensure Exams

Licensure Exam Policy for All Candidates Who Wish to Student Teach:

To be eligible for student teaching, all student teacher candidates MUST PASS a state-approved content area licensure exam PRIOR to the student teaching semester in which they student teach. The two approved exams are PLACE and PRAXIS II. Please see below for the exam information relevant to your licensure area. Candidates are required to report their scores to their home institution, the CU-Boulder School of Education, as well as to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). PLACE automatically sends score information to CDE.

For Elementary and Secondary English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Candidates:

The Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE) and the CDE require applicants in the following areas to pass the designated PRAXIS II or PLACE licensure exam prior to student teaching. Either licensure exam is accepted when you apply to the CDE for a provisional teaching license.

LICENSURE AREA	PRAXIS II TEST NAME (TEST #)	PLACE TEST NAME (TEST #)
Elementary	Elementary Education (10014)	Elementary Education (01)
Secondary English	English Language, Literature and Composition (10041)	English (07)
Secondary Mathematics	Mathematics (10061)	Mathematics (04)
Secondary Science	General Science (10435)	Science (05)
Secondary Social Studies	Social Studies (10081)	Social Studies (06)

For Foreign Language & Music Candidates:

For student teaching candidates in Foreign Language or Music licensure programs, the **PLACE** exam is the required licensure exam candidates must **pass prior to student teaching**. For these individuals, the PLACE licensure exam is accepted when you apply to the CDE for a provisional teaching license.

Licensure Area	PLACE TEST NAME (Test #)
K-12 Music	Music (29)
Secondary French	French (08)
Secondary German	German (10)
Secondary Italian	Italian (11)
Secondary Japanese	Japanese (15)
Secondary Latin	Latin (12)
Secondary Russian	Russian (14)
Secondary Spanish	Spanish (09)

Exam Registration Information

Register online: PRAXIS II: www.ets.org/praxis

PLACE: www.place.nesinc.com

Test Dates: Found on the registration websites

Score Reporting

Candidates must report scores to CU-Boulder or they will not be allowed to student teach. Enter the following score reporting codes when registering for the exams to ensure the School of Education obtains the scores. Scores must also be reported to CDE. PLACE scores are automatically reported to CDE; PRAXIS II scores are not.

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PRAXIS II Score Reporting Codes:

Colorado Department of Education (CDE): 7040

University of Colorado-Boulder (UCB): 4841

You will also have to find test center codes, major codes and certification program codes on the PRAXIS website. Major code is a code for your undergraduate major and certificate code is a code for your licensure type (elementary, secondary social studies, etc.).

PLACE Score Reporting Code:

University of Colorado-Boulder (UCB): 10

Which Licensure Exam?

As you know by now, there are two state-approved licensure exams: PLACE and PRAXIS II. But how do you choose the right one for you?

PLACE is an exam designed specifically around the Colorado Model Content Standards for K-12 Education and the Performance-Based Standards for Colorado Teachers. All of your education courses are also designed to meet these standards and should prepare you adequately for that aspect of the exam. The exam also tests your content knowledge or academic preparedness. This is an excellent choice for an individual who plans to remain in Colorado. Also, this exam is less expensive comparable to PRAXIS II, and the testing agency reports scores much faster than ETS, the group that administers the PRAXIS II. PLACE is the only exam that is approved by the state for foreign language and music license seekers.

PRAXIS II is an exam that is used by some other states as a licensure exam, making it a good choice for someone who intends to transfer their CO teaching license. Anyone who is planning to leave Colorado once earning licensure should call their intended state's department of education to find out if they accept the PRAXIS II exam. If they do not take PRAXIS II, then there is no advantage necessarily in choosing this exam over PLACE. The PRAXIS II is a content knowledge, or subject assessment, exam. It is less lengthy than PLACE, but more expensive.

When to Take an Exam

We strongly recommend the following time frames for taking the exams.

- If you intend to **student teach in a fall semester**, then you need to take an exam by December of the preceding year.
- If you intend to **student teach in a spring semester**, you need to take an exam by March of the preceding year.

Sound early? It's not relative to the timeline for the student teaching checkouts. Plan early to prepare and take an exam before the process becomes a high stakes gamble with your student teaching semester.

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