



**Woodring College of Education Teacher Education Programs  
 Content Exam Scores of 2015-2016 Residency Certificate Program Completers**

Washington State requires teacher candidates to pass a content knowledge assessment for each endorsement earned. The data reported here reflect the scores of Western Washington University teacher education candidates who completed their Residency Certificate programs in Fall 2015 through Summer 2016. This was the second year in which NES exams were being phased in to replace the WEST E exams in certain subject areas. Therefore, this report contains both WEST E exams and NES exams for the same subject and they are displayed separately. A total of 280 candidates and 557 subject exam scores are represented in this analysis. The passing score for WEST E exams is 240 and is 220 for NES.

**Table 1 Content Exam Scores of 2015-2016 Teacher Education Completers**

Table 1 contains all content exam scores of candidates who completed their programs and earned an endorsement in that subject area in 2015-2016. Many students are represented more than once because they took more than one subject exam. All scores reported here (mean, minimum and maximum) are the passing scores which qualified the candidate to earn the endorsement. Data for subject exams with an N of 5 or less are not provided.

Candidates took and passed 30 additional WEST-E tests, and are likely to complete the endorsement as a certificated teacher. Results of these exams are not reported here.

Elementary Education Programs	Passed		Range of Passing Scores	
	N	Mean	Low Score	High Score
NS Elem Subtest 1	124	253	220	296
NS Elem Subtest 2	124	253	220	296
NS Elementary Reading	31	256	220	285
WE Engl Lang Learners	31	272	244	290
NS Early Childhood Educ	20	258	237	279
NS Mathematics	1			
WE Bilingual	1			
WE Elem Subtest 1	1			
WE Elem Subtest 2	1			
WE Special Education	1			

**2015-2016 Content Exam Scores**

**Table 1 Continued**

Secondary Education Programs	Passed		Range of Passing Scores	
	N	Mean	Low Score	High Score
NS Engl Lang Arts	35	262	224	289
WE Social Studies	26	262	240	296
WE Visual Arts	11	267	240	281
WE Designated World Lang	9	278	264	291
WE Music General	9	267	244	287
WE Biology	8	256	240	284
WE Music Instrumental	7	271	261	283
WE Science	6	258	244	270
NS Mathematics	5			
WE Engl Lang Learners	3			
WE Mid Lvl Hum Subtest 1	3			
WE Mid Lvl Hum Subtest 2	3			
WE Music Choral	3			
WE Physics	3			
WE Chemistry	2			
WE Health and Fitness	2			
WE Theatre Arts	2			
WE Engl Lang Arts	1			
Special Education Programs	Passed		Range of Passing Scores	
	N	Mean	Low Score	High Score
WE Special Education	35	267	247	291
NS Elem Subtest 1	21	251	224	285
NS Elem Subtest 2	20	247	224	285
WE Early Child Special	4			
NS Early Childhood Educ	2			
WE Engl Lang Learners	1			
WE Elem Subtest 1	1			

**2015-2016 Content Exam Scores**  
**Continued**

**Table 2 Number of Content Exams Taken by Teacher Education Completers**

Students often take more than one content exam. Of the 2015-2016 completers, 64 percent took a second exam. The two-part Elementary exam accounts for many of the second test figures. Twenty-six percent of the Secondary students took two or more exams. The subjects most commonly taken by the Secondary students who took more than one exam were varied clusters of science exams and the social studies and language arts combination. English Language Learners and Reading were frequently third exams for the Elementary students. Most of the Special + Elementary Education program students eventually report scores from two exams: Special Education and Elementary Education (two subtests).

WCE Program	Students Who Took 1 Exam		Students Who Took 2 Exams		Students Who Took 3 Exams		Students Who Took 4 Exams		Total Students
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Elementary Education Programs	12	9%	81	59%	15	11%	29	21%	<b>137</b>
Secondary Education Programs	74	71%	26	25%	4	4%			<b>104</b>
Special Education Programs	16	41%	2	5%	20	51%	1	3%	<b>39</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>280</b>

**2015-2016 Content Exam Scores**  
**Continued**

**Table 3 Content Exams Repeated after Failure**

The number of exams that candidates repeated after failing are displayed in Table 3. All of the repeated exams were successfully passed and the candidates were endorsed in that subject area. Most content exams (95%) were passed by candidates on the first sitting.

WCE Program	Number of Students			
	Took the Exam 2 Times	Took the Exam 3 Times	Took the Exam 4 Times	Took the Exam 7 Times
<b>Elementary Education Programs</b>				
NS Elementary Subtest 1	6	3		
NS Elementary Subtest 2	5	3	3	1
<b>Secondary Education Programs</b>				
WE Biology	1			
WE Social Studies	1			
<b>Special Education Programs</b>				
WE Elementary Subtest 1	1	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>

**2015-2016 Content Exam Scores**  
**Continued**

**Table 4 WWU Mean Score vs. Statewide Mean Score**

The means of the WWU content exam scores of the 2015-2016 completers are reported here along with the statewide means for comparison. Data for subject exams with a WWU N of 5 or less are not included here. The statewide mean for 2015-2016 examination period was used. The cut score for WEST E exams is 240 and is 220 for NES exams.

Content Exam	N	WWU		Statewide	
		Mean	Points Above Passing	Mean	Points Above Passing
NS Elem Subtest 1	145	253	33	248	28
NS Elem Subtest 2	144	252	32	245	25
WE Special Education	36	266	26	262	22
NS Engl Lang Arts	35	262	42	255	35
WE Engl Lang Learners	35	272	32	268	28
NS Elementary Reading	31	256	36	251	31
WE Social Studies	26	262	22	256	16
NS Early Childhood Educ	22	259	39	252	32
WE Visual Arts	11	267	27	260	20
WE Designated World Lang	9	278	38	265	25
WE Music General	9	267	27	262	22
WE Biology	8	256	16	251	11
WE Music Instrumental	7	271	31	266	26
WE Science	6	258	18	255	15
NS Mathematics	6	252	32	253	33