



## HOW TO READ YOUR SCORE REPORT

### For the Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA)

#### OVERVIEW

This score report provides your test results for the PECT Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) that you took on the test administration date(s) indicated on the report.

**Please note:** This score report is for your records only. Keep a copy for your permanent records. Your test results will be reported directly to the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Your test results will also be reported to the Pennsylvania program providers you identified when you registered for the test, including the program provider where you have completed or will complete a teacher education program, and up to two other identified program providers. In addition, your test results may be reported to other program providers or offices authorized or required by law to receive this information.

All tests in the PECT program are criterion referenced; that is, they are designed to measure your knowledge and skills in relation to an established standard of performance (a criterion) rather than in relation to the performance of other candidates. The scores indicated on this report are for the purpose of securing a state-approved Pennsylvania educator preparation certificate. They are NOT intended to be used for employment decisions, college admission decisions, or any other purpose.

#### TEST RESULTS

Under the test code and the name of the module [e.g., **001 Pre-service Academic Performance Assessment (PAPA) – Module 1: Reading**], you will find your **Test Date**, your **Total Test Scaled Score**, and your **Status**. For PAPA Module 1: Reading and PAPA Module 2: Mathematics, your scores are based on the number of test questions you answered correctly and are reported on a scale that ranges from 100 to 300. A scaled score of 220 represents the minimum qualifying score for PAPA Module 1: Reading. A scaled score of 193 represents the minimum passing score for PAPA Module 2: Mathematics. Your status is listed as “Passed” for a module if your total test scaled score is at or above the minimum passing score for that module. If your total test scaled score is less than the minimum passing score for the module, your status is listed as “Not Passed.”

Due to the need to score the extended-response assignment for the PAPA Module 3: Writing, your score on the Writing module may be reported separately, at the conclusion of the next scoring period.

For PAPA Module 3: Writing, your total test scaled score is based on the number of selected-response (multiple-choice) questions you answered correctly combined with your scores on the constructed-response assignments. (Selected-response questions consist of a question followed by four response options labeled A, B, C, and D. Selected-response questions may be preceded by stimulus material, such as a description of a classroom situation, a reading passage, or a chart, table, or graph. For the PAPA, there are two types of constructed-response assignments: short-answer sentence corrections and an extended-response assignment. For each sentence correction assignment, you were presented with a sentence containing two errors; you were to rewrite the sentence to address the errors and maintain the original meaning of the sentence, without introducing any new errors. For the extended-response assignment, you were to prepare a multi-paragraph composition of approximately 600 words, on an assigned topic, that effectively communicated a whole message to the specified audience for the stated purpose.)

Your score for PAPA Module 3: Writing is also reported on a scale that ranges from 100 to 300. A scaled score of 220 represents the minimum qualifying score for the module. Your status is listed as “Passed” if your total test scaled score is 220 or greater. If your total test scaled score is less than 220, your status is listed as “Not Passed.” Listed under your total test scaled score, you will find the scaled scores for each section of the module (i.e., **Selected-Response Questions and Sentence Corrections Scaled Score** and **Extended-Response Assignment Scaled Score**). Your score on the selected-response questions and sentence corrections counts for 80 percent of your total test scaled score, while your score on the extended-response assignment counts for 20 percent of your total test scaled score.



**Scaled Scores.** Results for each module, and each section of the PAPA Writing module, are reported on a scale of 100–300. For Modules 1 and 3, a scaled score of 220 represents the approved performance criterion, i.e., the cutscore or minimum qualifying score. For Module 2, a scaled score of 193 represents the approved performance criterion. Cutscores have been established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education based on the recommendations of a panel of Pennsylvania educators.

## SUMMARY REPORT

At the bottom of your score report is a summary report chart that presents vital information about your test-taking performance, including your current status on the entire PAPA series. You should review the information presented and confirm its accuracy, especially noting the highest scores you have earned on the test modules across all test attempts.

**PAPA Status.** Your status on the PAPA series is reported as “Passed,” “Not Yet Passed,” or “Incomplete.” Your status on the PAPA series is reported as “Passed” if you achieved the minimum passing score or higher on all three PAPA test modules (i.e., a scaled score of 220 or higher for Modules 1 and 3, and a score of 193 or higher for Module 2). It is also possible to pass the PAPA series by the Composite Score Option, described below. Your status is reported as “Not Yet Passed” if you have not yet met or exceeded the minimum passing score on each of the three modules, and you have not met the criteria of the Composite Score Option. Your status is reported as “Incomplete” if you have not yet taken all three modules or if your first attempt on the Writing module has not yet been scored.

**Composite Score Option.** The Composite Score Option for PAPA was initiated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to enable a candidate who may excel in one area such as mathematics, but who is not strong in another PAPA area, to receive a passing score on the PAPA series. In order to qualify, a candidate must

- meet or exceed a minimum score in each test area (Reading, Mathematics, and Writing);
- and then exceed the PAPA Qualifying Score in one or two of the other test areas by enough that when the test scores are added together, they total at least 633.

The minimum scores required for the Composite Score Option are shown below.

Test Name	Test #	PAPA Qualifying Score	Minimum Composite Score
PAPA Reading	001	220	<b>193</b>
PAPA Mathematics	002	193	<b>176</b>
PAPA Writing	003	220	<b>192</b>
Minimum Composite Score Total: 633			
If the sum of your Reading, Mathematics, and Writing scores total 633 or higher, and all scores meet or exceed the minimum composite score, you meet the basic skill testing requirements.			

## DIAGNOSTIC INFORMATION

Your score report shows your performance on each objective of the test module. For each listed objective you will find the **Approximate Number of Test Questions** administered to you and the **Percentage of Items Answered Correctly**.

Your reported performance on each individual objective of the test is provided for the sole purpose of helping you identify your areas of strength and weakness on the test (especially if you are required to retake one or more modules of the test). You do not “pass” or “fail” individual objectives. Your eligibility for a state-approved Pennsylvania educator preparation certificate will be determined, in part, on the basis of your overall performance on each module of the test, represented by your total test scaled scores.



For PAPA Module 3: Writing, if your scaled score on the extended-response assignment was below 220, you will also find, in the **Extended-Response Assignment** section, your assigned holistic score. This holistic score reflects scores assigned by two (2) independent scorers, on a scale of 1–4. The holistic score reported is the sum of their two scores. You will also find a "score point description" that presents diagnostic information in reference to the specific score you received. This diagnostic information might be used to improve your written performance upon retaking the test. (The diagnostic score point description is found under Objective 0015 – Demonstrate the ability to develop a piece of analytical writing.)

If your extended-response assignment score is labeled "B," this means that your response to the assignment was blank. If your extended-response assignment score is labeled "U," this means that your response was designated as unscorable. A response is considered unscorable when it is unrelated to the assigned topic, when it is not primarily in the target language, when it is illegible, or when it does not contain a sufficient amount of original work to score.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Retaking the test.** You may retake the test by following the same registration procedures you completed for previous test administrations. Please note you must allow 30 days between test dates.

**Test preparation materials.** Study guides and practice tests are available on the program Web site at [www.pa.nesinc.com](http://www.pa.nesinc.com).