CFCC UPDATE: STANDARDS, SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION and the PRAXIS

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Glenn Waguespack, M.S., CFCC
ASHA, CHICAGO IL
November 14, 2013

Disclosure

- Melissa Passe is the incoming chair of the CFCC. She is the Director of the Speech and Hearing Clinic at Truman State University and has a nonfinancial relationship with the CFCC in her role as Member and incoming Chair.

- Glenn Waguespack is the vice chair for audiology of the CFCC. He is a private practice audiologist and a part time clinical faculty member at LSU Health Sciences Center. He has a nonfinancial relationship with the CFCC in his role as Member and vice chair.

Topics To Be Covered

CFCC

- CFCC Personnel
- Certification Standards
- Disclosure
- Changes Under Discussion
- Specialty Certification
- New SLP Praxis
- Audiology Praxis
- Operations

2013 CFCC Members

Chair

Judith L. Page, CCC-SLP

Vice Chair for Audiology

Glenn Waguespack, CCC-A

Vice Chair for SLP

Melissa Passe, CCC-SLP

Speech-Language Pathologists

Jose Centeno, CCC-SLP

Alison Scheer-Cohen, CCC-SLP

Sandra Wright, CCC-SLP

Petrina Jackson, CCC-SLP

Audiologists

James Baer, CCC-A

Akilah Heggs, CCC-A
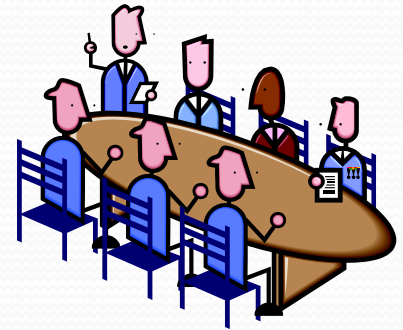
Stacey Matson, CCC-A

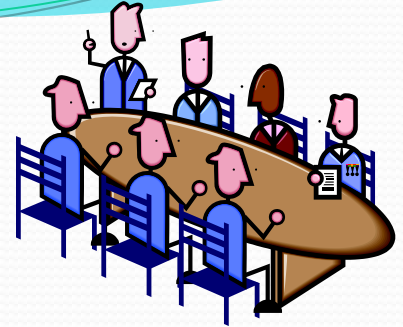Roy Shinn, CCC-A

Public Member

Diane Yeager

NSSLHA Representatives

Student 1

Student 2

2014 CFCC Members

Chair

Melissa Passe, CCC-SLP

Vice Chair for Audiology

James Baer, CCC-A

Vice Chair for SLP

Jose Centeno, CCC-SLP

Audiologists

Sue Ann Erdman, CCC-A

Dan Halling, CCC-A

Stacey Matson, CCC-A

Diane Sabo, CCC-A

SLPs

Nancy Alarcon, CCC-SLP

*Lynn Flahive, CCC-SLP

Petrina Jackson, CCC-SLP

*Linda Mackey, CCC-SLP

Alison Scheer-Cohen, CCC-SLP

Sandra Wright, CCC-SLP

Public Member

Diane Yeager

*Glenn Buck

NSSLHA Representatives

Nia Potier, AUD Student

**Laura Zanfardino, SLP Student**

CFCC Contacts

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- Neil DiSarno, Chief Staff Officer, Audiology
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- Melissa Passe CFCC Chair 2014
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- Judith Page CFCC Chair 2013
  - University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
 - Judith.page@uky.edu

2014 SLP Standards: Key Revisions

- 2014 Standards follow same organization as Audiology Standards

- Most program process language has been removed
  - Sequencing of courses, program documentation, etc.
  - More focus on outcomes

- Reduced procedural language (e.g. How to apply)

- Tried to focus on <u>what</u> applicants should look like rather than <u>how</u> they were prepared
  - There are some exceptions to this (e.g. Standard IV-A: biological sciences, physical sciences, statistics, social/behavioral sciences)
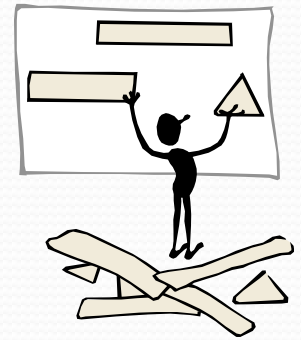
2014 SLP Standards: Recurring Questions
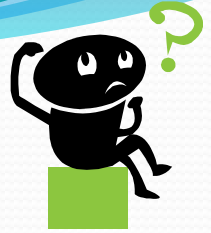
Is physics or chemistry required? What about statistics?

Std. IV-A: The applicant must have demonstrated knowledge of the biological sciences, _physical sciences_, _statistics_, and the social/behavioral sciences.

Implementation:

- Biological sciences **should** emphasize content area related to human or animal sciences…

- Physical sciences **should** include physics or chemistry

- Social/behavioral sciences **should** include psychology, sociology, anthropology, or public health

- A stand-alone course in statistics is **required** – not research methods

NOTICE: Where the word 'should' appears, CFCC is suggesting optimal choices, but leaving **final decisions in the hands of the programs.**

Recurring Questions

<u>What is meant by direct supervision in 'real time'?</u>

- Supervision should be considered to have happened in 'real time' if it occurred at the actual time during which a process or event occurs. The two events are synchronous/simultaneous.

- 'real time' and 'onsite' are separate constructs

<u>What is meant by 'direct client contact'?</u>

- The provision of assessment or intervention to a client

- Paperwork, programming, meetings, preparation, reporting are excluded

Recurring Questions

<u>Can the 25 hours of observation occur in a university clinic while observing student clinicians?</u>

- Observations of student clinicians may count toward the 25 hours of observation as long as the student clinicians are operating under the supervision of a CCC-SLP and the certificate holder provides the signature for the verification of the hours.

Recurring Questions

Do students who plan to seek a Master's degree in SLP need to have their 25 hours of observation under a CCC-SLP only?

- Yes/No?

- **The applicant for certification in speech-language pathology must complete a minimum of 400 clock hours of supervised clinical experience in the practice of speech-language pathology. Twenty-five hours must be spent in clinical observation, and 375 hours must be spent in direct client/patient contact.**

- Implementation: Guided observation hours generally precede direct contact with clients/patients. The observation and direct client/patient contact hours must be within the ASHA Scope of Practice of Speech-Language Pathology and must be under the supervision of a qualified professional who holds current ASHA certification in the appropriate practice area. Such supervision may occur simultaneously with the student's observation or afterwards through review and approval of written reports or summaries submitted by the student. Students may use video recordings of client services for observation purposes.

Guidance for Students: FYI

- ASHA began accepting applications under the new 2014 Standards on September 1, 2013

- Applicants may apply under either 2005 or 2014 Standards from September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

- Applicants will be required to apply under the 2014 Standards beginning September 1, 2014

* *

Programs should advise students accordingly (e.g. students who graduate in May or August 2014 may use 2005 standards if they submit their application before August 31, 2014)

More Guidance for Students: FYI
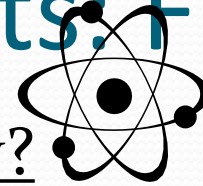
Question: Must I take physics or chemistry?

NO: If you are assured acceptance into a program that does not require physics or chemistry for physical sciences

YES: If you are considering application to a program that does require either physics or chemistry

Question: Must I take a statistics course?

NO: If you are eligible to apply for certification before August 31, 2014

YES: If you are not eligible to apply for certification before August 31, 2014

…and More: FYI

Question: What biological and social/behavioral sciences courses should I take?

ANSWER: Whatever is required for your undergraduate degree that will satisfy the requirements at the school where you plan to obtain your graduate degree

Disclosure

- Applicants for certification and membership are required to complete disclosure questions on the application

  - If convicted, found guilty or entered a plea of 'guilty' or 'nolo contendre' to several classes of misdemeanor or any felony, must submit:
    - Certified copy of each court document
    - Certified copies of pleas and/or convictions and demonstrates remediation

  - If disciplined or sanctioned (other than for insufficient continuing education) by a professional association, licensing authority/board, regulatory body, must submit:
    - Certified copy showing discipline of sanctions and remediation, if applicable

- Disclosures are evaluated as part of the certification process
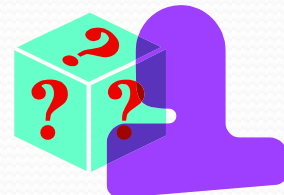
Specialty Certification

- Effective January 1, 2014 ASHA's specialty recognition program will be replaced by a clinical specialty certification program

- Clinical specialty certification will continue to be awarded by the specialty boards

- CFCC will replace the Council for Clinical Specialty Recognition as the overseeing body

- Membership of CFCC has been increased by three:
  - 2 members holding clinical specialty certification
  - 1 additional public member

For More Information

- The SLP Certification Handbook is currently being revised to reflect the new standards

- Check out the Certification page on ASHA's web site
  - Standards
  - FAQs
  - Slides from the SLP Standards webin
  - Other useful information

Development of Praxis Tests

Some Background on ETS....

- A nonprofit organization, founded in 1947
- The world's largest private educational testing and measurement organization
- Our mission: To advance quality and equity in education by providing fair and valid assessments, research, and related services.
- ETS develops, administers and scores more than 50 million assessments in over 180 countries, at more than 9,000 locations worldwide.
- More than 2,800 employees work at ETS's offices throughout the United States and the world
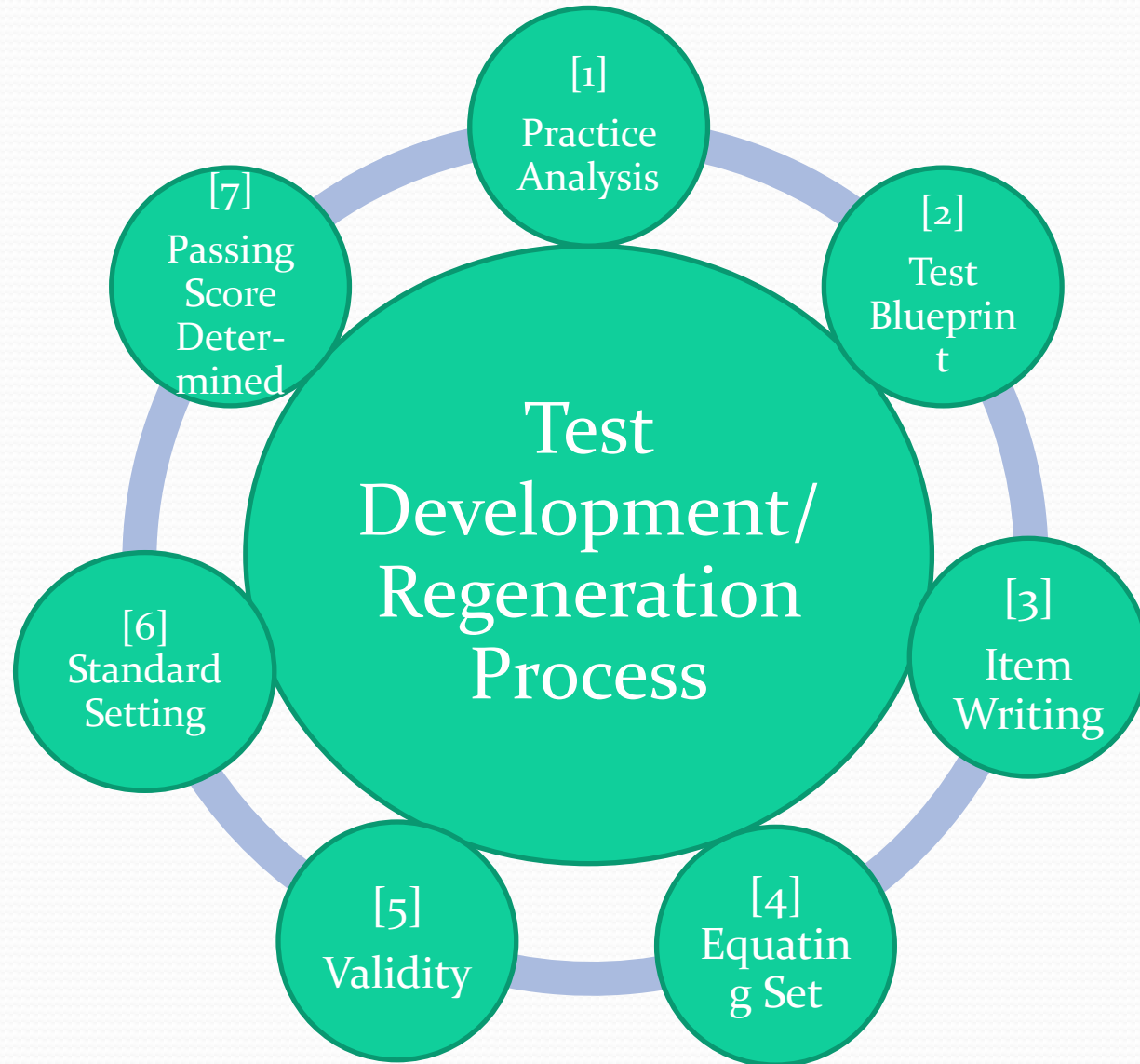
The Speech-Language Pathology Test is Changing

Plan now for the changes that affect you!

- New test code ➡ 5331
- New score scale ➡ 100-200
- New cut score ➡ ??? (will be determined after standard setting and review of results) – to be announced by early March

How does this happen?

How are ASHA's Praxis Exams Developed?

Test Development/ Regeneration Process

[1] Practice Analysis

[2] Test Blueprint

[3] Item Writing

[4] Equating Set

[5] Validity

[6] Standard Setting

[7] Passing Score Determined

Creating Quality Assessments

A National Advisory Committee (NAC) comprised of practitioners is convened for each ASHA Praxis test

- ETS solicits ASHA to provide nominations

- **1st NAC Panel Meeting**
  - National standards and professional needs are considered
  - Specifications focused on core knowledge essential for beginning practitioner are formulated (test map)

- **Practice and Curriculum Analysis is conducted**

- **2nd NAC Panel Meeting**
  - Finalizes test blueprint based on survey results

- **Test Development Committee** write items matched to specifications

- **Test forms are assembled**

Standard-Setting Process

The Test

| Take the Test | Discuss the Test |

↓

The Training

| Standard-Setting Training | Practice |

↓

The Judgments

| Round 1 (Independent) | Discussion & Round 2 |

Standard Setting
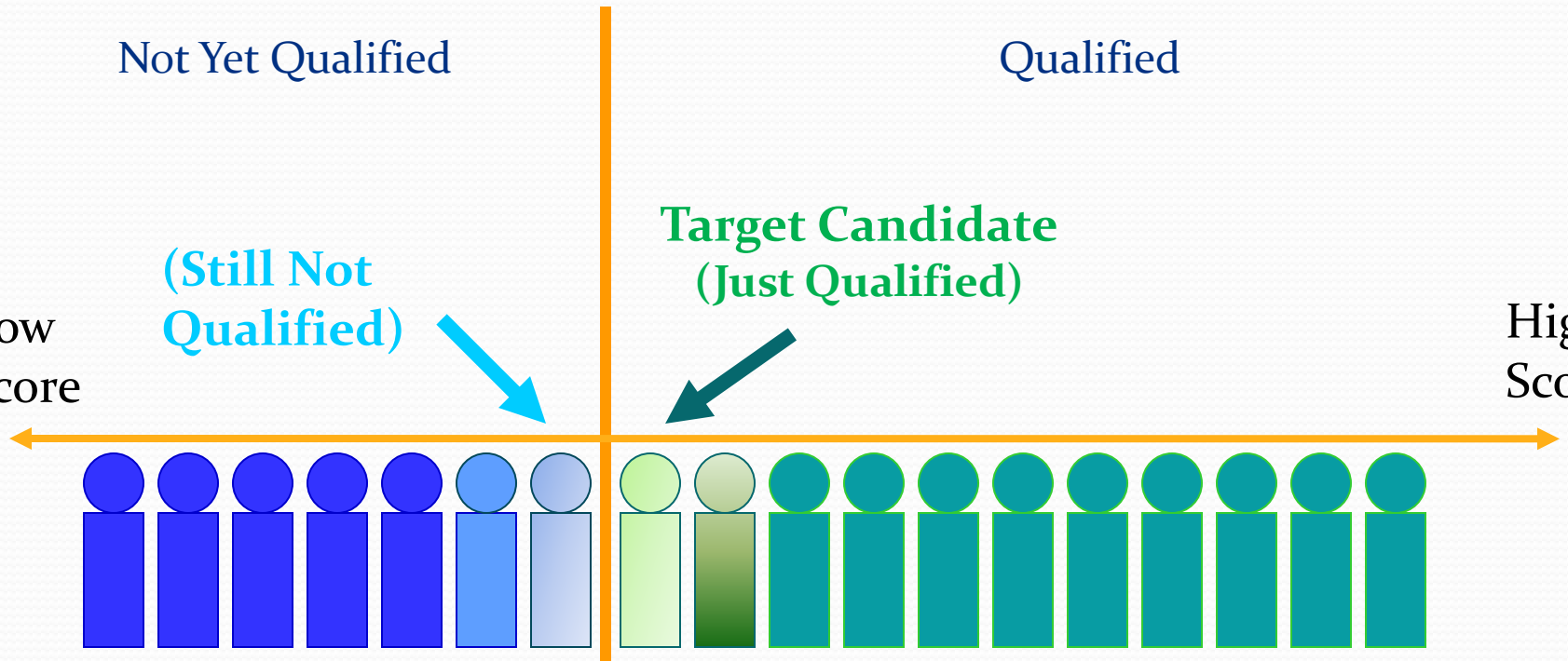
Standard Setting Judgments

What is the likelihood (probability or chance) that a Target Candidate would answer the question correctly?

No
Chance

Even Chance

Certainty

0   .05   .10   .20   .30   .40   .50   .60   .70   .80   .90   .95   1

Very Unlikely

Very Likely
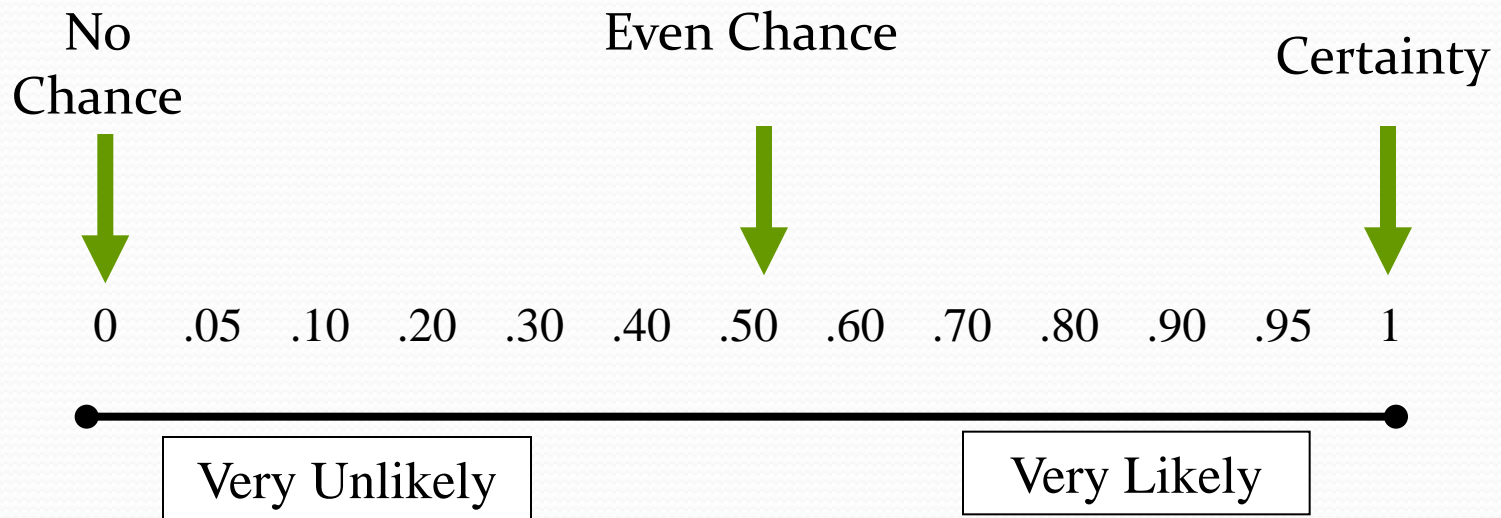
What Does the Standard Setting Study Report Provide for Setting the Score?

- Recommended study value (RSV) is given on the raw score metric, along with the percentage it represents of the total available raw score points

- Scaled score associated with a raw score is provided

- ETS recommends staying within +/- 2 SEM's (standard error of measure) of the RSV and will provide the scores representing +1, +2, -1 and -2 SEM's above and below the RSV

CFCC Decides Its Operational Cut Score

- Reviews the information in the report and decides what it will adopt as its cut score
  - Reviews recommendations of panel
  - Reviews a copy of the content specifications and a form of the test(s)
  - Factors in other considerations relevant to the field of practice

TAAG for Current Test - SLP (0330)

Speech-Language Pathology (0330)

Highlights the topics covered and in what proportion

Test at a Glance	
Test Name	Speech-Language Pathology
Test Code	0330
Time	2 hours
Number of Questions	120
Format	Multiple-choice questions

Content Categories	Approximate Number of Questions	Approximate Percentage of Examination
I. Basic Human Communication Processes	20	17%
II. Phonological and Language Disorders	23	19%
III. Speech Disorders	15	13%
IV. Neurogenic Disorders	23	19%
V. Audiology/Hearing	6	5%
VI. Clinical Management	23	19%
VII. Professional Issues/ Psychometrics/Research	10	8%

Praxis *SLP* Test Regeneration Update

June 20-22, 2013 -- National Advisory Committee (NAC) Meeting

- Completed content distribution decisions for test specifications based on

  - Practice and Curriculum Analysis
  - CFCC confirmation of NAC recommendation for high level content weighting

  I **Foundations & Professional Issues**   **33.3%**
  II **Screening, Assessment, Evaluation & Diagnosis**   **33.3%**
  III **Planning, Implementation & Evaluation of Treatment**   **33.3%**

- NAC reviewed pool of questions for inclusion in new test

Praxis *SLP* Test Regeneration Update

Fall 2013 – Final test specifications created for publication

Fall 2013 – Standard-setting test form reviewed

- Final test questions and test forms will be reviewed by NAC members

    Note: Standard setting test form will be created to be adaptable for test taker accommodations.

January 2013 – Standard setting conducted in Rockville, MD

Fall 2014 – First administration of the new SLP test

- Final administration of current test – August 2014

Praxis *SLP* Test Regeneration Update

- Test will be computer-delivered except for testing accommodations
    - Computer delivery will allow for the use of computer-enabled capabilities and innovative item types
- Test will be 30 minutes longer than current test 2:30 rather than 2:00 to allow for:
    - the inclusion of unscored questions (to be analyzed for potential use in future test forms)
    - the inclusion of more complex stimuli (including, potentially, audio and video stimuli as well as complex assessment data within case studies).

SLP Pass Rates for Current Test

Test Code	Group	N	Highest Score Pass Rate
Sept 2012 – August 2013			
9330 (combined paper and computer)	All Test Takers	7878	93.3%
October 2014 – August 2015			
5331	All Test Takers	?	?

ETS The PRAXIS Series

Listening. Learning. Leading.®

The *Praxis*™ Study Companion

Audiology

0342
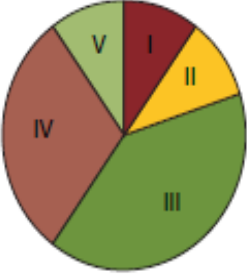
Study Companion

Provides test blueprint to help develop a study plan

Audiology (0342)

Test at a Glance	
Test Name	Audiology
Test Code	0342
Time	2 hours
Number of Questions	120
Format	Multiple-choice questions

Highlights the topics covered and in what proportion

Content Categories	Approximate Number of Questions	Approximate Percentage of Examination
I. Foundations	12	10%
II. Prevention and Identification	12	10%
III. Assessment	48	40%
IV. Intervention	36	30%
V. Professional Issues	12	10%

ETS STANDARD SETTING STUDY

- Conducted August 6 and 7, 2011, to collect content-related validity evidence; to

- Confirm the importance of test specifications; to

- Gather data aimed at the determination of a passing score to reflect level of knowledge and/or skills needed to earn the CCC-A

- Based on the Audiology Practice Analysis conducted by ASHA

- Based on knowledge and/or skills associated with a four-year degree, doctoral entry level

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

- June 2011—Letter sent by ETS to all regulatory boards and programs indicating that in August 2011 ETS would conduct a standard setting study on the regenerated Praxis Audiology test for ASHA (to be based on last Audiology Practice Analysis)

- Presentation by ETS at CFCC July 2011 meeting

- Last date for administration of current Audiology exam scheduled for July 2011

- Regenerated Audiology test to be administered in November 2011

- New Audiology test to be coded as number 0341, is a 120 point test, and all scores to be reported on a 100-200 scale (revised scale in keeping with ETS plan to change GRE and other ETS tests to new scaling system)

- Advance copy of TAAG (Test at a Glance) sent to all program; TAAG outlines new test specifications for content areas to be incl

CHRONOLOGY (CONTINUED)

- ASHA CFCC charged with evaluating ETS data to recommend a new passing score for audiology certification purposes

- CFCC Conference call with Rick Tannenbaum from ETS; explained selection of panelists and methods used to score test

- Standard Setting Technical Report made available to CFCC

- ETS recommended passing score for Praxis Audiology test is 87 (on raw score matrix); represents 73% of total available 120 raw score points

- Scaled score associated with a raw score of 87 would be 170 points

SUMMARY/RESULTS OF ETS STUDY

- CFCC conference call 8/31/11; Audiology Subcommittee voted to accept ETS recommendation and set a passing score of 170 points (73%) on Praxis Audiology Exam

- Unanimous vote of CFCC 9/9/11 to accept ETS recommendations

- Following administration of November 2011 Praxis exam, ETS planned to report scores with new scoring system

- Applicants for ASHA certification in Audiology must show passing score of 170 (73%)

- Programs and licensure boards not prepared for new reporting system; ETS agrees to continue reporting 600 as passing score until January 2013
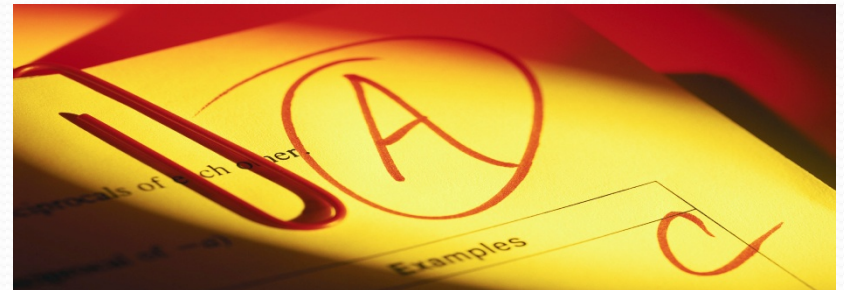
CURRENT STATUS/FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- New reporting system to be implemented January 2013

- December 2013—Audiology Praxis to be administered via computer—paper administration to continue only for those needing accomodations

- Test fee to be $115—no registration fee

- Candidates to have access to reports for 1 year (formerly 45 days)

- Equivalency compared to previous test—170 equivalent to 600; 200 equivalent to 990; 167 equivalent to 580

- No change for speech-language pathology reporting scores at this time; SLP has completed its practice analysis

- ETS to conduct similar standard-setting for SLP in January 2014; reporting of scores may follow same system

NEW SCALED SCORE

- Move to new scale occurred January 2013
- With rescaling, a passing score of 600 on the old exam is now equivalent to a score of 170 on the new exam
- **ALL SCORES TO BE REPORTED ON A 100-200 SCALE**

AUDIOLOGY PASS RATES

January-September 2013

Code & Scale	**N**	**Highest Score Pass Rate**
Code 0342 100-200 scale	680	78.4%

Note: Cut score = 170

Education Level Pass Rates

Subgroup	N	Highest Score Passing Rate
Bachelor's Degree	150	80.0%
Bachelor's Plus Additional Credits	268	83.6%
Master's Degree	12	58.3%
Master's Plus Additional Credits	39	74.4%
Doctoral Degree	76	56.6%

(Informational Slide by ETS)

Praxis Score Reporting

- **Computer-Delivered Multiple-Choice**
  - Unofficial score results viewed immediately at test center
  - For tests taken in testing windows, official score reports available online 12 business days after window closes
  - Scores available online for one year for candidates to download
  - Additional score reports--$40.00

  (Informational Slide by ETS)

CHANGES UNDER DISCUSSION (Audiology Standards)

- Proposed Modifications to Audiology Standards
  - Change in Std. III—Program of Study—to allow 200 of the 1820 required clinical practicum hours to be supervised by an audiologist who does not hold the CCC-A or by a licensed professional in a related health care discipline (for IPE)
  - Change in Std. III to allow some flexibility in obtaining supervised hours post-graduation.
    - Up to 200 hours could be accrued in employment setting under supervision of CCC-A
    - Supervisor to complete a Knowledge & Skills assessment

CURRENT STATUS OF PROPOSED AUDIOLOGY STANDARD CHANGES

- Draft language reviewed by full CFCC in November 2013
- To be finalized at February 2014 meeting and then sent for peer review

Operations Update

2013-2014 Test Dates

- **9 months with computer testing Windows:**
  - 2-week long testing periods: October (just extended to 4 weeks), December, January, February, April, May, July and August with a one week window in June
  - **SLP** offered at each window
  - **Audiology** offered in December, February and July
- **Paper-based tests** – 4 fixed dates
  - September, November, March and June
  - **SLP** offered at all four administrations
  - **Audiology** available by paper September and June administrations
- Test fee - $115

Score Reporting

- **Computer-delivered multiple-choice test scores**
  - Unofficial score results viewed immediately at test center
  - For tests offered in specific testing windows, official score reports available by web 12 business days after the window closes
  - Do not accept candidate copies without receiving official scores from ETS
  - Additional score reports - $40

New Score Reporting

Test-Taker Score Reports via ETS Data Manager

- Boards can extract data using standard report types**:**
  - **Report Date** — retrieving data by specific report date and testing program
  - **Keyword Search** — search by first name, last name, Social Security number or candidate identification number
  - **Annual History Report** — create a report containing test takers that reported to the Designated Institution within a selected year
  - **Advanced Search** — search by specific test, test date, date range and variable
- Export data in these formats: HTML, Microsoft Word®, PDF, XML or non-delimited flat file with a fixed width (scores previously received via CD ROM and *Scorelink*® were in this format).

New Score Reporting

Receive test taker score reports via Web Service tool

- No user interface needed
- One-time set up
    - You set parameters for retrieval, and request data in specific format
    - Based on your schedule
    - Secure transfer using industry standard web protocols
    - Data is transferred in XML format, making this an ideal choice for large files.

    - Note: Requires an understanding of a programming language such as Java, Perl, .NET or PHP

New Access to Candidate Scores

- Data Updated Weekly (on Monday evenings)
  - To start, data from September 2012 to date
  - Moving to two years of candidate data availability
- Exportable Data
- Able to access individual candidate scores
- Candidate should list your recipient code in order for you to receive their score (3 free score reports with registration)
- ETS retains scores for 10 years

ETS Contacts

- Kathy Pruner (ETS): <u>kpruner@ets.org</u> – Client Relations

- Institutional and Board support: (866) 243-4088   (Denee West)
  - Email: <u>TeachingandLearning@ETS.ORG</u>

- Praxis Connections Newsletter - to sign up, visit <u>http://www.pages03.net/ets/PraxisMailingList/IHEOptIn/</u>

- ETS Data Manager for The *Praxis Series*™
  - <u>http://www.ets.org/praxis/institutions/services_tools/data_manager/</u>

THANK YOU!

http://www.asha.org/certification/

www.ets.org/praxis