

Praxis I Exam Survival Guide

The **PRAXIS I** (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics) assessment continues to be required as the prescribed test for entry into a Virginia teacher preparation program. Individuals may meet the **PRAXIS I** assessment requirement by achieving the scores established by the Board of Education for each of the three **PRAXIS I** tests—mathematics, reading and writing—**or** by achieving the established composite scores on all three tests.

Topic	Score
Math	178
Reading	178
Writing	<u>176</u>
Composite	532

STEP 1 – Check your SAT and/or ACT scores before registering for the Praxis exam. You may be able to substitute these test scores for the Praxis.

The Board of Education approved the use of the **SAT®** as a substitute test for Praxis I (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics). The board approved the following scores:

SAT Taken Prior to April 1, 1995—a score of **1000** with at least **450** on the verbal and **510** on the mathematics tests;

SAT Taken After April 1, 1995—a score of **1100** with at least **530** on the verbal and **530** on the mathematics tests as a substitute for Praxis I.

The Board of Education approved the use of the **ACT** as a substitute test for Praxis I (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics). The board approved the following scores:

ACT Taken Prior to April 1, 1995—a composite score of **21**, with the ACT mathematics score no less than **21**, and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than **37**. [Please note that you must have taken and met passing scores for the ACT **Mathematics** and **English Plus Reading** tests. At one time, the English Plus Reading test was not offered.]

ACT Taken After April 1, 1995—a composite score of **24**, with the ACT mathematics score no less than **22**, and an ACT English Plus Reading score no less than **46**.

If you do not meet the above criteria, then you will need to begin preparing for the Praxis exam.

STEP 2 – Go to the LARC to find out what you are expected to know for the Praxis 1 exam.

We have worked with many students over the years, and we have discovered that the students who follow our advice are the students who do the best. Many students have taken and failed the exam because they have failed to prepare. Simply knowing how to read, write, and ‘do math’ rarely results in a passing score. Standardized tests are constructed in such a way to measure knowledge in a structured and meticulous manner. Therefore, in order to succeed, you must understand the exam itself. The tutors in the LARC can help you with this aspect of the exam.

Access the materials the LARC has posted on WebCT. You will NOT need to purchase any other materials or pay for expensive prep courses to prepare for the Praxis exam! All materials you will need are available in the LARC and in the TRC located in Peters Hall.

STEP 3 – Practice, practice, practice!

Expect to put in a few weeks (or months) of preparation. It is unrealistic to think the LARC can help you pass the exam if you call us a day or two before your scheduled test date. We will give you the tools you need to prepare for the exam, but it is still up to you to read, research, learn, and practice the skills that you will need to be successful.

The LARC has many practice exams for you and you should feel confident in your ability to pass the Praxis before signing up to take the official exam.

STEP 4 – Register to take the exam.