

Dear Teacher Candidates;

This letter is to inform you that changes occurred this past summer in WV state policy. Because Shepherd University must comply with state law, this change will have an impact on completion of your education program.

Policy 5100 now states:

*"10.4.g. Content test requirement as a requirement for clinical experience. Effective July 1, 2017, candidates shall obtain passing scores on grade-level appropriate, WVBE-adopted PRAXIS II content test(s) as described in the West Virginia Licensure Testing Directory of this policy in order to complete the student teaching/clinical experience component of the WVBE-approved program."*

This means that if you will be student teaching AFTER Spring Semester, 2017, you will be required to pass the PRAXIS II content test(s) designated for your specialization BEFORE you will be eligible to student teach. Because of processing times for student teaching permits and the county required protocols for identifying student teaching placements, in order to be guaranteed a student teaching placement, we must have your content PRAXIS II content scores, your student teaching application, and permit related paperwork by the following deadlines.

June 1, 2017 for fall semester, 2017 (and beyond) student teaching

November 1, 2017 for spring semester 2018 (and beyond) student teaching

Please plan your specialization coursework and schedule your content PRAXIS testing accordingly so that you will be able to student teach within a timely sequence.

According to WVDE policy, you would have one year from the date of your last continuous enrollment at Shepherd University to apply for certification with the testing requirements that were in effect when you graduated. After one year, if there are different testing requirements in place, you would be required to meet them.

Sincerely,



LeAnn A. Johnson  
Director of Teacher Education, Department of Education