

**Educators may satisfy the General Knowledge (GK) exam requirement via one of the following methods:**

- Option 1** - Advanced degree earned from an accredited college/university in any major.
  - ❖ Mail an official paper transcript to FLDOE and ensure the SLPS Human Resources Department has a copy.
- Option 2** - Two years of full-time college teaching experience.
  - ❖ Contact the SLPS Certification Specialist to discuss 772-429-7512.
- Option 3** - Valid alternative assessment scores. See the qualifying scores requirements below.
  - ❖ Email the official score reports to the SLPS Certification Specialist.
  - ❖ This option concludes effective June 30, 2029.
- Option 4** - Satisfy waiver requirements.
  - ❖ See requirements below on page 2.
- Option 5** - Pass subtests 1-4 of the [General Knowledge Test \(GK\)](#)
  - ❖ Essay Subtest
  - ❖ English Language Skills (ELS) Subtest
  - ❖ Reading Subtest
  - ❖ Mathematics Subtest

Effective July 1, 2024, the following alternative assessments may satisfy the GK exam requirement if the following criteria are met:

- GRE test was taken on or after July 1, 2015.
- SAT, ACT, and CLT test were taken on or after March 1, 2016.
- The minimum required score on the GRE, SAT, ACT, and CLT was earned during the ten (10) years immediately preceding application and qualification for a Professional certificate.
- Passing scores are required in each of the four general knowledge areas.

| GENERAL KNOWLEDGE SUBTEST         | ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT                 | MINIMUM REQUIRED SCORE ON ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>GK Essay</b>                   | GRE Analytical Writing                 | A combined score of 4 out of 6                   |
|                                   | SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing   | A score of 560                                   |
|                                   | ACT English                            | A score of 22                                    |
|                                   | CLT Verbal Reasoning & Grammar/Writing | A combined score of 49                           |
| <b>GK English Language Skills</b> | GRE Verbal Reasoning                   | A score of 151                                   |
|                                   | SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing   | A score of 560                                   |
|                                   | ACT English                            | A score of 22                                    |
|                                   | CLT Verbal Reasoning & Grammar/Writing | A combined score of 49                           |
| <b>GK Reading</b>                 | GRE Verbal Reasoning                   | A score of 151                                   |
|                                   | SAT Evidence-Based Reading & Writing   | A score of 560                                   |
|                                   | ACT Reading                            | A score of 23                                    |
|                                   | CLT Verbal Reasoning & Grammar/Writing | A combined score of 49                           |
| <b>GK Mathematics</b>             | GRE Quantitative Reasoning             | A score of 147                                   |
|                                   | SAT Mathematics                        | A score of 540                                   |
|                                   | ACT Mathematics                        | A score of 22                                    |
|                                   | CLT Quantitative Reasoning             | A score of 20                                    |

## Certification Exam Waivers

| Waiver of the General Knowledge Exam                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Additional Information |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The educator fails one or more sections of the GK exam.                                                                                                                                                                           | ❖                      | Educators who do not attempt the GK exam within the applicable timeframe and who do not meet the GK requirement via a master's degree or college teaching experience will need to pass the GK exam in order to upgrade to the Professional Educator Certificate. <b><u>An attempt should be made no later than the second year of the temporary certificate (See timeline below).</u></b>                                                                                                          |
| 2.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <b>AFTER</b> failing the GK exam, the educator receives <b>three years</b> of support and instruction from the district designed to help pass the GK test.                                                                        | ❖                      | <b>To use the GK waiver</b> , educators must submit proof of their GK exam attempt (score report) to the SLPS Certification Specialist.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 3.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The educator has a <u>summative</u> evaluation rating of effective or highly effective for the three most recent years that the educator was rated (three years immediately preceding the upgrade to a Professional certificate). |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Waiver of the Professional Ed Exam                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Additional Information |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The educator completes the professional prep courses (PPC) listed on their Statement of Eligibility (SOE) by taking college courses.                                                                                              | ❖                      | Teachers whose Statement of Eligibility only lists exams as the requirement, who did not complete a district professional education competency program (PEC), and who did not complete professional prep coursework while employed in a Florida school district will need to pass the Professional Ed exam (PET). These criteria will mostly impact teachers who received a Temporary certificate based on completing an out of state education program or whose Professional Certificate expired. |
| 2.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The educator completes the district's professional education competency (PEC) program.                                                                                                                                            |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 3.                                                                                                                                                                                                     | The educator has a <u>summative</u> evaluation rating of effective or highly effective for three years.                                                                                                                           |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Waiver of the Subject Area Exam                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| An educator must have a master's or higher degree from an accredited university or college with a degree major in a corresponding area to the exam. Please contact the SLPS to discuss – 772-429-7512. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

Note: Charter/private school evaluations will not be accepted for the use of an exam waiver if they do not contain a Student Growth component.

## Waiver Timeline

| Certificate Expiration Date | 3 years of teaching experience (support and instruction) <b>after</b> failing the GK exam                                 | For the GK exam, 3 years E/HE evaluations<br>(for <b>ALL</b> 3 school years listed below) | For the Professional Ed Exam, 3 years E/HE evaluations<br>(for <b>ANY</b> 3 school years listed below) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6/30/2027                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24-25</li> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> </ul> *Must attempt GK exam by 6/30/2024. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23-24</li> <li>24-25</li> <li>25-26</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22-23</li> <li>23-24</li> <li>24-25</li> <li>25-26</li> </ul>   |
| 6/30/2028                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> <li>27-28</li> </ul> *Must attempt GK exam by 6/30/2025. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24-25</li> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23-24</li> <li>24-25</li> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> </ul>   |
| 6/30/2029                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26-27</li> <li>27-28</li> <li>28-29</li> </ul> *Must attempt GK exam by 6/30/2026. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> <li>27-28</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24-25</li> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> <li>27-28</li> </ul>   |
| 6/30/2030                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27-28</li> <li>28-29</li> <li>29-30</li> </ul> *Must attempt GK exam by 6/30/2027. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26-27</li> <li>27-28</li> <li>28-29</li> </ul>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25-26</li> <li>26-27</li> <li>27-28</li> <li>28-29</li> </ul>   |