



TO: Pennsylvania Educator Preparation Program Provider Deans, Chairs, and Certifying Officers

FROM: Dr. Christina Baumer
Division Chief, Professional Education and Teacher Quality

DATE: December 18, 2018

RE: Notification Form: Act 82 of 2018 Section 1202.1 Grades 5 and 6 Add-on Option for PreK-4 Certificate Holders

MESSAGE:

On October 19, 2018, Governor Wolf signed into law Act 82 of 2018 which amends the Public School Code of 1949 to add Section 1202.1 pertaining to Instructional Certificate Grade Spans. It is important to clarify that Act 82 of 2018 has no impact on and should not be confused with Act 82 of 2012, which is primarily known for teacher evaluation provisions.

Per Act 82 of 2018 Section 1202.1, all candidates enrolled in an Early Childhood PreK-4 program and all Early Childhood PreK-4 certificate holders may add Grades 5 and 6 to their certificate by attaining qualifying scores on the following assessments:

- Grades 4-8: Module 2 – English Language Arts & Social Studies (5154) and
- Grades 4-8: Module 3 – Mathematics & Science (5155).

These assessments are administered through the Educational Testing Service (ETS).

Candidates may take these assessments during or after completion of their Early Childhood PreK-4 program. However, the Pennsylvania Department of Education can not grant the Grades 5 and 6 add-on certificate until after the PreK-4 certificate has been awarded. To expedite the process, candidates may apply for the add-on simultaneously with the PreK-4 certificate. Information on this option is available on the [Certification Test and Score Requirements](#) chart on the Pennsylvania Department of Education's website.

All teacher preparation programs must provide this notification form to all individuals seeking an early childhood certification per Section 1202.1(b)(1)(ii).

Please contact the department's certification staff with any questions at 717-PA-TEACH (728-3224) or ra-edcertquestions@pa.gov.