



Northern Arizona
University
College of Education

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NAU College of Education Vision Statement

We develop educational leaders who create tomorrow's opportunities.

**Pass Rates for School Psychology Candidates Enrolled in the Certification Programs Offered
Though the NAU Department of Educational Psychology**

Overview of Test: Although the Arizona State Board of Education does not require school psychology candidates to pass the Praxis school psychology exam in order to meet the qualifications required for school psychology practice in Arizona schools, the NAU Department of Educational Psychology requires all candidates to take the Praxis exam as part of their graduate program. In addition, school psychology candidates can take the Nationally Certified School Psychology (NCSP) exam, which is the certification test. Individuals who take the NCSP exam receive a score; however, there is no passing cut-off score. Arizona does not require the NCSP for certification and there is no cut-off score established for school psychology practice in Arizona. In addition to the Praxis test, school psychology candidates have been highly encouraged to seek national certification and take the NCSP. Beginning fall 2006, all NAU school psychology candidates (masters and doctoral level) will be required to take the NCSP as part of their graduate program.

Test Information:

http://www.nasponline.org/certification/becoming_NCSP.html

According to NASP guidelines, applicants must achieve a passing score (660) on the National School Psychology Examination administered by the Educational Testing Service. Test scores remain valid for five (5) years after the test. Test scores older than five (5) years are considered expired and would require the re-taking of the examination. The [School Psychologist test](#), code 10400, is administered through the Praxis Series of Educational Testing Service. ETS's *Tests at a Glance* contains content outlines, sample questions with rationale for the best answers, and test-taking strategies.

Praxis Exam for School Psychologists

Candidates admitted in 2004 are the first to have the requirement of passing the Praxis exam required by the Arizona State Board of Education for school psychology certification. Among the 15 candidates who took the Praxis school psychology test in spring 2006, 13 candidates passed the exam (87% pass rate). The cut-off score NAU uses for "passing" is 660, which is recommended by NASP.

NCSP Exam for School Psychologist

Since 2001, 41 graduates from either the M.A. in School Psychology or the Ph.D. in School Psychology programs have obtained NCSP certification. A departmental alumni survey recently revealed that among the graduates who did not obtain NCSP accreditation the primary reason for not seeking this credential was because certification was not required in the state in which they reside.