



PRAXIS II Test Requirement for All Teacher Education Majors

The following information is of utmost importance in terms of all students meeting the necessary requirements to complete a teacher education degree at Appalachian State University.

Beginning in the fall of 2007, all students in a teacher education program at Appalachian must take the appropriate PRAXIS II test for their licensure areas prior to or during student teaching. Completing the test and submitting the scores to the Reich College of Education is a course requirement for student teaching (C I/SPE 4900) and, as such, one of the program requirements needed to successfully complete degree in order to be recommended for licensure. Students may take the PRAXIS II prior to applying for student teaching but **must** take the test prior to the completion of student teaching.

Any student who has not taken the PRAXIS II test prior to the completion of student teaching will not receive a grade for student teaching until the test has been taken and an official copy of the test scores is received in the RCOE Dean's Office. Without the grade for student teaching, a student will be ineligible to graduate and, therefore, will not be recommended for licensure. Students who take the appropriate test but do not meet the state established cut-off score will not be denied their degree, but they will be strongly encouraged to retake the test as soon as possible.

The PRAXIS II test is an important performance measure for prospective teachers. As a result of federal legislation (No Child Left Behind), school districts are seeking to hire highly qualified candidates; one of the state's measures for such a qualification is successful completion of the appropriate PRAXIS II test. Graduates with passing PRAXIS II scores will, in most cases, be favored for hiring by school districts over those without passing scores. Information about PRAXIS II is available on line at www.praxis.org Information regarding this requirement can be found on the RCOE homepage in the *Undergraduate Teacher Education Handbook*: <http://www.ced.appstate.edu> and in the Office of Field Experiences, 440D, College of Education.

If you have any questions relating to Praxis or this memo, please contact the Office of Field Experiences.