

## RMU PECT/Praxis II Testing Policy

According to RMU's current policy, students must attempt the appropriate content area exam(s) prior to being permitted to student teach. Students may not count a failing score as a 'pass' using the PDE GPA process until the point of graduation.

This policy exists for several reasons:

- Passed PECT/Praxis II exams assure that all students are ready to be certified at graduation
- PECT/Praxis II exam pass rates are an important part of our teacher education program outcomes measures
- Principals and Superintendents often review PECT/Praxis scores when hiring and note that students who pass via the PDE GPA qualifier still have 'failing' test scores according to Title II reporting
- States outside of Pennsylvania do not use the GPA qualifier and therefore may not accept PECT/Praxis scores
- The PDE GPA qualifier is changeable and is only valid at the point of certification application
- Employers and the public often use program pass rates on the exams as a measure of program preparation quality

To implement the testing policy, the following procedures are in place.

1. All students must register for all of the PECT or Praxis II exams appropriate to their content area(s) prior to either July 15 for fall student teaching or October 15 for spring student teaching. Proof of registration is submitted with the student teaching application.
2. All students who do not pass the exam prior to student teaching, according to their ETS or Pearson report form, must enroll in the appropriate PECT or Praxis II prep course the semester of student teaching and retake the exam prior to program completion.
3. Students are expected to pass the exam before graduation. However, students may apply the GPA qualifier at the point of graduation to obtain certification.

Students who do not pass the PECT or Praxis II prior to student teaching will be permitted to begin student teaching but must enroll in the appropriate prep course(s) and retake the appropriate content test(s) during student teaching.