



Future Teacher Testing Requirements

This guide outlines multiple ways to meet California's Basic Skills and Subject Matter Competency requirements for teaching credentials. Candidates can qualify through exam scores (CBEST, SAT, ACT, AP), approved college coursework with a B or better, or a combination of both. It also explains alternatives like CSET exams and CTC-approved waiver programs to fulfill subject-specific requirements.

The Basic Skills Requirement can be fulfilled by CBEST, ACT, SAT, and other exams; degree applicable college coursework; OR a combination of exam scores and coursework.

CBEST Course equivalents

Students can meet CBEST Reading, Writing and Math requirements through course requirements in their undergraduate Degree program.

- For Reading Proficiency: Any GE A3 (Critical Thinking) class at a community college or CSU will satisfy the requirement. If you attend a private university, a course in critical thinking, literature, philosophy, reading, rhetoric or textual analysis will meet the requirement.
- For Writing Proficiency: the GE A2 (English) requirement at a community college or CSU will satisfy the requirement. If you attend a private university, a course in composition, English, rhetoric, written communication or writing will satisfy the requirement.
- For Math Proficiency: A GE B4 (Math) course in algebra, geometry, mathematics, quantitative reasoning or stats will satisfy the requirement.

**Must pass each class with a B grade or better. Each class must be a minimum of 3 semester units or 4 quarter units.*

SAT or ACT exemptions

- If you scored a 560 or higher on Critical Reading(Verbal) you meet the basic skills requirement
- If you scored a 570 or higher on Math you meet the basic skills requirement
- If you scored a 22 or higher on the ACT English, you meet the basic skills requirement
- If you scored a 23 or higher on the ACT Math, you meet the basic skills requirement

AP Score Exemptions

Must score a 3 or above on the following exams

- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition

CSET option and equivalents

- CBEST and CSET are two ways to fulfill the Basic Skills Requirement and the Subject Matter Competency requirement. These requirements are still in place, but there are many different options available to fulfill them.
- Subject Matter Competency can be fulfilled by CSET, a CTC-approved waiver program (Elementary Subject Matter Program or Subject Matter Preparation Program), OR completion of an academic major in the same subject as the credential being sought.

CSET Test prep materials

- [Test prep](#)