

## Section IV Assessment 1 - Content Knowledge: National School Psychology Exam

### 1. Brief Description of Assessment

a. Interns are required to take the School Psychologist Praxis Test developed by the Educational Testing Service (ETS): PRAXIS II Test #10400. This examination is designed for 60-hour master's- and specialist's-degree-level candidates wishing to serve as school psychologists in educational settings. According to ETS, the test assumes that candidates have had some form of supervised practicum or internship experience. The 120 multiple-choice test questions focus on both content and process issues that are relevant to the school setting. The main content areas of the test include diagnosis & fact finding, prevention & intervention, psychological foundations, educational foundations, and ethical & legal issues. In measuring the five content areas, a variety of contexts are used as settings: consultation, assessment, intervention, research, professional standards, and in-service.

b/c. To graduate from RIC School Psychology program, the criterion score set is 500. In 2004, the program faculty had recommended, and the department faculty approved, using the mean score of the PRAXIS examination (500) as the minimum score required for program completion. The faculty felt that anchoring the passing score on the mean score would demonstrate that the knowledge base of graduates of our program is comparable to the expected knowledge base of an average school psychology graduate. For students who complete the program, achieving the mean score on the PRAXIS examination makes them eligible to receive the C.A.G.S. in School Psychology and be certifiable as a school psychologist in the State of Rhode Island. Achieving the score of 660 which is the passing score for those seeking the national credential is strongly encouraged in the program. Mean scores have significantly increased since 2005, while the percentage passing has remained constant. It is notable that the program is currently reviewing the cut off score required for our graduation in light of data trends.

d. There is no exam required for the RI School Psychology credential.

e. Not applicable

### 2. Alignment with NASP Domains

The Praxis Exam domains align with NASP standards, and therefore, serves as a useful assessment of student attainment of content knowledge aligned with NASP Standards:

<i>Praxis Content Area</i>	<i>NASP Standard</i>
Diagnosis and Fact-finding	2.1, 2.8, 2.9, 2.11
Prevention and Intervention	2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5, 2.7, 2.8
Applied Psychological Foundations	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 2.9
Applied Educational Foundations	2.1, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6
Ethical and Legal Considerations	2.1, 2.6, 2.10

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### 5c. Aggregated Candidate Data

**Table A: Aggregated Data:**

Candidate code	Praxis Score 03-04	Praxis Score 04-05	Praxis Score 05-06	Praxis Score 06-07	Praxis Score 07-08
I-1	750	600	730	780	740
I-2	660	670	760	680	770
I-3	710	630	660	730	800
I-4	680	690	710	710	750
I-5	660	680	700	670	800
I-6	690	600	770	750	720
I-7	700	610	700		670
I-8	720	560	730		830
I-9	770				620
I-10	670				730
I-11					750
I-12					800
I-13					660

**Table B: Percentage of students passing PRAXIS exam**

<i>Year of Program Completion</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>% passing RIC Criterion (500)</i>	<i>% passing National Certificate criterion (660)</i>
2008	14	742	620-830	100%	92%
2007	6	720	680-780	100%	100%
2006	7	718	660-770	100%	100%
2005	8	690	560-690	100%	38%
2004	10	710	660-770	100%	100%

**Table C: Praxis Content Area Averages**

<i>Praxis Content Area Averages</i>	<i>2008*</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2005</i>
Diagnosis and Fact-finding (25% of exam)	25	23	24	19
Prevention and Intervention (25% of exam)	24	21	22	20
Applied Psychological Foundations (20% of exam)	20	16	19	13
Applied Educational Foundations (12% of exam)	11	10	10	7
Ethical and Legal Considerations (18% of exam)	19	16	15	15

\*based on N=12 (content scores for 2 candidates not available at time of submission)