

*I Mina'trentai Siette Na Lihelaturan Guåhan*  
**BILL STATUS**

BILL NO.	SPONSOR	TITLE	DATE INTRODUCED	DATE REFERRED	CMTE REFERRED	FISCAL NOTES	PUBLIC HEARING DATE	DATE COMMITTEE REPORT FILED	NOTES
282-37 (LS)	Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas	AN ACT TO ADD AMEND § 8102(v), § 8102(bb), AND § 8104(b) OF ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 8, TITLE 5A, GUAM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE TO REMOVING THE PRAXIS CORE MATHEMATICS REQUIREMENT FROM THE GUAM EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.	4/24/24 2:55 p.m.						

***I MINA'TRENTAI SIETTE NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN***  
**2024 (SECOND) Regular Session**

**Bill No. 282-37 (LS)**

Introduced by:

Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas 

**AN ACT TO ADD AMEND § 8102(v), § 8102(bb), AND § 8104(b)  
OF ARTICLE 1, CHAPTER 8, TITLE 5A, GUAM  
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS, RELATIVE  
TO REMOVING THE PRAXIS CORE MATHEMATICS  
REQUIREMENT FROM THE GUAM EDUCATOR  
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM.**

**Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.** *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* finds that requiring the Praxis CORE Mathematics test to obtain a Guam Professional Educator Certification is an unnecessary burden to applicants, a deterrent to potential teachers and those desiring to be, and that many states have removed the requirement or are in the process of doing so. The Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators: Mathematics (5733) Test is an unnecessary burden to applicants of Guam Professional Educator Certification and a pointless requirement for many of them because mathematics is not utilized or is very minimal in subjects other than mathematics itself. Mathematics is not utilized or is not involved in teaching subjects such as English, History, and Reading, so teachers of these subjects have no use or need in taking the Mathematics test of Praxis CORE. For subjects that utilize mathematics or some form of it, such as Social Studies and General Science, the specific Praxis test for these subjects already tests for the mathematics involved in

1 the subject. In the Praxis Study Companions for General Science (5436) and Social  
2 Studies (5081), they state that mathematics involved in these subjects (Economics  
3 for Social Studies and data collection and analysis for General Science) are tested  
4 for and is part of the exam already. Taking the Praxis CORE Mathematics test is  
5 redundant and useless, as the mathematics involved in other subjects are already  
6 tested for in their specific Content Praxis test. Removing the Praxis CORE  
7 Mathematics test will make the educator certification process irredundant and more  
8 convenient for applicants.

9 *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* also finds that removing the Praxis CORE  
10 Mathematics test will make the process of obtaining a Guam Educator Certification  
11 less deterrent and discouraging to potential applicants because it will reduce the  
12 number of costly requirements for it. Currently, just to obtain an Initial Educator  
13 Certificate, applicants are required to pass the Praxis I and/or the Praxis CORE,  
14 which has three components including Mathematics, Praxis II Principles of Learning  
15 and Teaching (PLT) tests, and the Praxis Content Test according to the Guam  
16 Commission for Educator Certification. This is five tests just for an initial  
17 certification, and each test comes with a costly price tag that some applicants might  
18 not be able to afford. To take all of the Praxis tests to obtain an Initial Educator  
19 Certificate, it will cost about \$400 or more, with the cost of the Praxis CORE  
20 Combined Test costing \$150, or \$90 to take a single component of the Combined  
21 Test, \$156 for the Praxis II PLT, and \$130 or more for the appropriate Content Test  
22 (Educational Testing Service). Failing any of these tests means the applicant will  
23 need to reapply to take the test again and pay for it. In order to ease the burden of  
24 those applying to become an educator in our island and prevent them from becoming  
25 discouraged, it is necessary to remove the redundant and costly requirement of the  
26 Praxis Core Mathematics test.

1            *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* further finds that many states in the mainland do not  
2 require Praxis CORE Mathematics in their certification requirement. According to  
3 the Praxis website, states like Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Idaho,  
4 Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, etc. do not require applicants to take Praxis CORE  
5 Mathematics test, only the Praxis CORE Reading and Writing and/or specific subject  
6 Praxis test. Some states like California also have much less stringent requirements  
7 for their educator certification, requiring only a few examinations to receive the  
8 certification. Other states clearly see that the Praxis CORE Mathematics test is  
9 unnecessary for their educator certification requirement, so we should recognize this  
10 as well and ease the requirements of our educator certification.

11            It is the intent of *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* to create a legislation removing the  
12 Praxis CORE Mathematics testing requirement for the Guam Educator Certification  
13 in order to lighten the tedious and costly requirements of the certification, make the  
14 requirements less redundant, and to follow the example of the many states that  
15 reformed their educator certification process. This legislation, if passed, will not only  
16 encourage more aspiring educators to become certified, but also aid in alleviating  
17 the shortage of certified teachers in our island.

18            **Section 2.** § 8102(v) of Article 1, Chapter 8, Title 5A, Guam Administrative  
19 Rules and Regulations *shall* be amended to read as follows:

20            “(v) *Praxis I* means the pre-professional skills test that measures basic  
21 academic skills in reading; and writing; ~~and mathematics~~ from Educational Testing  
22 Service (ETS).”

23            **Section 3.** § 8102(bb) of Article 1, Chapter 8, Title 5A, Guam Administrative  
24 Rules and Regulations *shall* be amended to read as follows:

25            “(bb) Praxis Core Academic Skills for Educators (CORE) means the series of  
26 tests for reading; and writing ~~and mathematics~~ that uses technology to more  
27 accurately measure the abilities, content knowledge and critical thinking skills of the

1 teacher candidates from the Educational Testing Service (ETS). This definition will  
2 be used in all areas throughout the Rules and Regulations that make reference to  
3 Praxis I.”

4 **Section 4.** § 8104(b) of Article 1, Chapter 8, Title 5A, Guam Administrative  
5 Rules and Regulations *shall* be amended to read as follows:

6 “(b) Examination of General Knowledge. All candidates for Guam  
7 Professional Educator Certification, *except* for those listed in Subsection (c) of this  
8 Section, *shall* take and pass the test of essential skills in reading, and writing, ~~and~~  
9 ~~mathematics~~ known as PRAXIS I. Applicants *shall* designate that the Guam  
10 Certification Office receive official test scores from ETS. Guam’s passing scores for  
11 PRAXIS are those scores for Guam as published by ETS.”

12 **Section 5. Effective Date.** This Act shall become effective upon enactment.

13 **Section 6. Severability.** *If* any of the provisions of this Act or the application  
14 thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity *shall not* affect  
15 any other provision or application of this Act which can be given effect without the  
16 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are  
17 severable.