



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

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Lt. Governor

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Acting Commissioner

ATTENTION: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND STAFF

May 10, 2011

Dear Educator:

A new edition of the Elementary Education – Multiple Subjects Assessment will be administered by ETS during the 2011-12 testing year. Our state will need to set a new passing score for this assessment and we are assembling with other participating states two panels of teachers and faculty members who prepare Elementary Education teachers. Our state's representation on these panels is very important. We will consider the recommendations of the two panels as we decide on the passing score requirement that this state will apply to candidates seeking to enter the Elementary Education profession in our state.

We apologize for the short notice and ask that, after reading the details below, you indicate your willingness to participate by in these panels by registering at the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Standard Setting website no later than close of business on May 13, 2011. ETS will then contact you if you are selected for the panels. You may access the site at: <http://ntis12.ets.org/onyx/standardsettingAllState.htm>.

The ETS panels will meet for two days. The first panel for **Elementary Education - Multiple Subjects** will meet on **July 18 & 19** and the second panel on **July 21 & 22**. Participants will review the assessment, provide independent judgments, and engage in panel-wide discussions as each panel considers the minimum score needed to be considered qualified to enter the Elementary Education profession. After the two panels meet, each state will ultimately decide for itself the passing score requirement to be applied for licensure in that state. The recommendations of the panels will be a significant factor in those decisions.

We nominate you to serve as a panel member from our state, and encourage you to participate. Our goal is to have teachers/teacher educators from this state on both panels, so we ask you to be available for both dates. Once each state has nominated its teachers/teacher educators, teachers/teacher educators from across the participating states will be selected and assigned to **one** of the two panels so that, overall, the two panels are comparable in terms of representation and expertise.

ETS will reimburse travel expenses and pay for up to two nights lodging for teachers who serve on the panels. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided each day of the meeting. ETS will also issue a professional development certificate to each participating teacher/teacher educator.

For **Question #1** – "your nominating State or Agency", please select "**MultiState**" option. It is the only option. The online form is generic for any panel except for **Questions #3 and #4**. Question #3 asks for the General Area in which the nominee has been selected; this question needs to be selected first. This selection will determine the options available for Question #4. Question #4 asks for the Subject Area in which the nominee has been selected. Please select the following options:

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION – MULTIPLE SUBJECTS:

Question #3: select "**Elementary Ed**" option

Question #4: select "**Elementary Ed**" option

If selected from among those nominated, ETS will mail you an invitation with further details about the study location and time, and you will be asked to respond to the invitation no later than **May 27, 2011**. Travel arrangements must be made by **June 17, 2011**.

We hope you will represent our state in the standard setting process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brenda Silver at (609) 292-2189.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert R. Higgins, Director
Office of Licensure and Credentials

Brenda G. Silver, Test Coordinator
Office of Licensure and Credentials