

VCU Pathways to Teaching: Career Switcher Program

About Career Switchers

The VCU Career Switcher Program is an accelerated educator preparation program that will move prospective teachers into the classroom early, as a full-time teacher, earning a salary, while working with experienced teachers and university education faculty. Learn more and apply here: <https://bit.ly/2K90e6N>

Eligibility Requirements

- Have a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university
- Have at least three years of full-time work experience or its equivalent
- Complete the process for taking VA Qualifying Exams

VA Qualifying Exams

Applicants for the VCU Career Switcher Program are required to take two VA qualifying exams for initial Virginia licensure. The prescribed tests for initial licensure are as follows:

1. Academic Skills Assessment: [Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment \(VCLA\)](#)
2. Content Assessment: [Praxis Subject Assessment](#)

[Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment \(VCLA\)](#)

The VCLA measures the communication and literacy skills necessary for Virginia educators. The VCLA is a computer-based test consisting of two subtests, a reading subtest and a writing subtest.

VCLA Subtest Required	Test Code	Passing Score*
Reading	091	235
Writing	092	235

*A total test score (the sum of the reading subtest and writing subtest scaled scores) of 470 is required to pass the VCLA. A candidate with a total test score at or above 470 achieves passing status.

[Praxis Subject Assessment](#)

The Praxis subject assessments measure the subject-specific content knowledge necessary for teaching. The subject of the Praxis assessment is determined by the endorsement area you are seeking.

Endorsement Area	PRAXIS Subject Test Needed	Test Code	Qualifying Score
Mathematics – Algebra I (add-on endorsement)	Algebra I	5162	148
Health and Physical Education PreK-12	Health and Physical Education	5857	160
Foreign Languages PreK-12 (French, German, Spanish)	French: World Language	5174	163
	German World Language	5183	163
	Spanish: World Language	5195	168
English as a Second Language PreK-12	English to Speakers of Other Languages	5362	149
Career and Technical Education – Business and Information Technology*	Business Education	5101	157
Career and Technical Education – Marketing Education*	Marketing Education	5561	147
Career and Technical Education – Technology Education*	Technology Education	5051	162
Career and Technical Education – Family and Consumer Sciences*	Family and Consumer Sciences	5122	153
Science – Biology	Biology	5235	155
Science – Chemistry	Chemistry	5245	153
Science – Earth Science	Earth and Space Sciences	5571	156
Science – Physics	Physics	5265	147
History and Social Studies	Social Studies	5081	161
English	English Language Arts	5038	167
Mathematics	Mathematics	5161	160
Computer Science	Computer Science	5652	142

*Industry certification required to be completed prior to recommendation for Level II.

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VCU

School of Education



For questions contact colejp@vcu.edu

Links to Useful Resources

[Register for Praxis Test](#)
[Praxis Test Prep and Support](#)
[Praxis Virginia Test Requirements](#)
[VCU's Testing Page](#)

[Praxis Subject Assessment](#)
[Praxis Test Retake Policy](#)
[Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment \(VCLA\)](#)
[VDOE Assessment Requirements for Virginia Licensure](#)