

ABOUT THE FLORIDA TEACHER CERTIFICATION EXAM

The Florida Teacher Certification Exam (FTCE) (or the Florida Educational Leadership Exam -FELE - for school administrators) is the state-required exam for professional educator licensure. The FTCE is required for all initial and advanced preparation areas, with the exception of educational leadership (Florida Educational Leadership Exam -FELE).

The FTCE and the FELE are composed of three sections – the General Knowledge Test (GKT) of basic skills in mathematics and language arts, the Professional Education Exam of pedagogical knowledge and skills, and the Subject Area Exam (SAE), specific to a subject matter/area of practice. Areas that require teachers to instruct across several subject/skill areas, such as Elementary Education, and Early Childhood Education have multiple Subject Area Exams. The FELE also includes multiple Subject Area Exams: Strategic Leadership, Organizational Development, Systems Leadership, and an exam portion.

Prior to 2021, passing the GKT was required for admission to professional licensure programs. The GKT is no longer required for admission.

2020-21 FTCE Professional Education exam results for USF initial teacher certification programs show the majority of programs with pass rates meeting or exceeding state pass rates, with the exception of Early Childhood Education BS, Middle Grades & Secondary Mathematics BS, Physical Education BS and Science Education BS. Initial teacher preparation SAE pass rates meet or exceed the state pass rates in all USF programs, with one exception, MAT English Education writing exam -somewhat anomalous, given in the previous five years, pass rates have exceeded the state pass rate. FTCE/FELE results for all advanced preparation programs show pass rates exceeding the state pass rates in all sections of the exam.

(See At-A-Glance FTCE Data Charts for USF-state pass rate comparisons for 2020-21 completers)

