ACT Plus Writing or SAT Score in Lieu of the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) for Individuals Enrolled in a Licensure Program at Northern Illinois University

ACT PLUS WRITING/SAT SCORES CAN BE USED IN LIEU OF A PASSING SCORE ON THE TAP.

Teacher Candidates must complete the following steps:

STEP ONE: CREATE AN ACCOUNT ON THE EDUCATOR LICENSURE INFORMATION SYSTEM (ELIS) AT https://sec3.isbe.net/IWASNET/login.aspx

STEP TWO: CONFIRM WITH AN ADVISOR THAT OFFICIAL SCORE REPORTS MEET THE COMPOSITE SCORE REQUIREMENTS:

- ACT:
  - Prior to 9/1/15 - Composite score of 22 or higher and a minimum score of 19 on the Combined English/Writing portion
  - 9/1/15 - 9/8/16 - Composite score of 22 or higher and a minimum score of 16 on the Writing portion
  - 9/9/16 and later - Composite score of 22 or higher and a minimum score of 6 on the Writing portion

- SAT:
  - Prior to 3/5/16 - Composite score of 1030 (critical reading + mathematics = 1030 or higher) and a minimum score of 450 on writing
  - 3/5/16 and later - Composite score of 1110 (evidence-based reading and writing + mathematics = 1110 or higher) and a minimum score of 26 on writing and language

- As of 6-28-17, the ISBE allows candidates to establish an independent composite score from multiple tests administrations of the same test (ie: ACT or SAT) in order to obtain the highest possible composite score.
  - The independent composite Score for ACT is calculated by taking the average of the four test scores (English, mathematics, reading, science), rounded to the nearest whole number.
    - To calculate the HIGHEST possible composite score, add the best score from each individual section and divide by four.
    - Fractions less than one-half are rounded down; fractions one-half or more are rounded up.
  - The independent composite score for SAT is calculated by adding the scores from the reading and math sections.
  - For candidates using the ACT or SAT, a passing score on the writing section is required in accordance with the above time line.
  - Combining scores from ACT and SAT to create an independent composite score is NOT permitted.
  - Candidates using multiple test administrations of the same test to obtain an independent composite score that meets the above criteria for a waiver of the TAP, are REQUIRED to submit ALL relevant official test results to the ISBE (See below) which may result in additional fees.

STEP THREE: REQUEST THAT SCORES BE SENT TO ISBE DIRECTLY FROM ACT OR SAT.

- The score report must arrive in a sealed envelope addressed to ISBE from ACT or SAT.
- If requesting an ACT Plus Writing score report, use ACT code 3001 when ordering.
- If requesting an SAT score report, use SAT code 6773 when ordering.
STEP FOUR: CHECK ELIS ACCOUNT TO VERIFY THAT YOUR ACT/SAT SCORE REPORT(S) ARE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF THE TAP. Please allow 60 days for this information to be added to your ELIS account. SCORE REPORTS THAT ARE RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ELIS ACCOUNT WILL BE HELD FOR 30 DAYS. AFTER 30 DAYS, THE REPORT MAY NOT BE CREDITED TO YOUR ACCOUNT.

SPECIAL NOTE: ISBE will not return official score reports that reflect a score less than listed above or lack a writing component. Such score reports will be shredded and therefore, cannot be used to apply for an Illinois license or endorsement.