Basic Skills Testing for Teachers – Aggregated PPST Data

Prior to 8/31/2014
**North Dakota requirements for the Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST):**
Reading (173), Writing (173), and Mathematics (170)
North Dakota has instituted a **composite score of 516** based on the Current Qualifying Scaled Scores for PPST Reading, Writing and Mathematics, provided the candidate has met the **passing score currently in place for two of the three tests.**

Beginning 9/1/2014
**North Dakota requirements for the Core Academic Skills for Educators (Core):**
Reading (156), Writing (160), Mathematics (150)
North Dakota has instituted a **composite score of 466** based on the Current Qualifying Scaled Scores for Core Academic Skills for Educators (Core) Reading, Writing and Mathematics, provided the candidate has met the **passing score currently in place for two of the three tests.**

**Aggregated Data for Completers**
All completers must pass the PPST as part of their admission to teaching education and as part of their process for permission to student teach. The PPST pass rate for the unit’s completers is 100%.

**A more detailed look at the aggregated data:**
Of the 1200-plus VCSU PPST tests taken since 2006, the overall median scores are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PPST Exam</th>
<th>VCSU Test-takers N=</th>
<th>VCSU Median Scores</th>
<th>National Median Scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>1215</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>178*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>1212</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>175*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>1209</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>178*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


83% of the candidates meet the PPST standards set for licensure by the state of ND and followed by VCSU for admission to the teacher education program on the first attempt.
17% do NOT meet the PPST standards for program admission on the first attempt.

After re-takes are included, the percent of candidates who pass the PPST moves from 83% to 95% when candidates seeking admission are permitted more than one attempt to meet the required test scores. VCSU does provide support for candidates who seek assistance. Ultimately, approximately 5% of the candidates who take the PPST initially do NOT end up becoming admitted to the program due to not meeting the basic skills for teachers’ testing standards.