

Praxis I—Math Component of the PPST

What kind of mathematics do I need to know for the math section of the PPST?

The good news is you need not be proficient in calculus to pass this test. In fact, most of the mathematics on the *Praxis I* is math you learned *before* enrolling in college.

General Test Information:

Test Type	Number of Questions	Time Allowed	Time/Question
Paper	40	60 minutes	1.5 minutes
Computer	46	75 minutes	1.6 minutes

- ★ The paper test is offered approximately 4 or 5 times per year (varies by location).
\$40 per test + a once per test year registration fee
- ★ The computerized test allows you to register at your convenience.
\$80 per test
- ★ Your score is based on the number of questions answered correctly.
Not all questions or categories may have equal weight.
- ★ It is to your advantage to *answer every question.*
- ★ **WARNING: Calculators are NOT allowed!!!**

Test Categories	Approximate Number of Questions		Approximate Percentage of Test
	Paper	Computer	
Number and Operations	13	15	32.5 %
Algebra	8	9	20 %
Geometry and Measurement	9	10	22.5 %
Data Analysis and Probability	10	12	25 %

Download a copy of the computer or paper-based “*Test at a Glance*” from the Educational Testing Service’s website at http://www.ets.org/praxis/prepare/materials/praxis_i_mathematics for a detailed account of each testing category.

How can the ARC help me prepare for the Praxis I math test?

The Academic Resource Center has the following resources available to help refresh your math skills in order to prepare for the math portion of the PPST:

Computer Tutorials	Brief Description
<i>Princeton Review—Math Review</i> *	Covers math skills listed under the “Number and Operations” category. * <i>This tutorial will require the program CD, available at the ARC reception desk—all ARC software must be used in the ARC computer lab.</i>
<i>SkillsBank 5—Intermediate Math II</i>	Covers the majority of listed test categories with a lesson, practice, and test format.

Math Tutors for WJU students

The ARC has math tutors who can assist you with relearning math topics you may have forgotten. Call the ARC at 304-243-4473 to schedule an appointment. Please be realistic about what can be accomplished in a 50-minute session.

Study Guides available from the ARC Praxis Library *

- *The PPST Guide*, Educational Testing Service
- *Study Guide for the Pre-Professional Skills Tests*, 2nd edition, Educational Testing Service
- *Pre-Professional Skills Test (PPST): Mathematics*, Full-Length Practice Test
- *Praxis I: Pre-Professional Skills Tests*, Cliffs Notes
- *How to Prepare for the Praxis*, 2nd edition, Barron’s Educational Series

* *All materials must be used in the ARC and cannot be checked out.*

Other Resources

Use this webpage, <http://WVInfoDepot.org>, to access the **Learning Express Library** website.

- Create a **Learning Express Library** account to use this site’s resources—it’s free!
- Follow the links: *Occupation Practice Tests* >> *Teaching* >> *PPST: Praxis I Preparation*
Under the “*Praxis I Preparation*” link, you should find two full-length practice *Praxis I* exams which you can use to familiarize yourself with the types of questions asked on the math portion of the test.
- Look under the “*College Students*” link for other available math reviews that may also help you prepare for this test.

Is there anything else I should know to help me get the math score I need?

Here are some additional suggestions to help you obtain a passing score on this portion of the PPST:

1. **Be Prepared.** Although the math required on the *Praxis I* is not necessarily rigorous, it is a good idea to take time to look over concepts that are certain to appear on this test. You do NOT want to waste precious minutes recalling information from the depths of your memory during test time. If you can, take a full-length practice *Praxis* test. This will help to familiarize you with question type and format, as well as let you know in what areas you may need additional study.
2. **Manage your time wisely throughout the test.** Bring a watch with you to keep track of how much time you are using (*the computerized test will keep track of how much time you have remaining*). Try to pace yourself by allowing approximately 1.5 minutes per question. In other words, you need to answer about 10 questions every 15 minutes.
3. **Read the entire question, and then look at all the answers** before attempting to figure out the problem. Seeing what form the answer is in can sometimes save you time.
4. **Use estimation.** Estimation skills can be very useful on the *Praxis*. Using estimation, rather than performing the actual calculation can eliminate many of the available answers and is a time-saver.
5. **Do not be afraid of skipping questions.** The goal is to maximize your time by answering as many of the other questions as possible, before returning to those skipped questions which will require some extra time to solve.
6. **Do not leave any question unanswered.** If you have to—GUESS! It is to your advantage to answer every question on the test.

Take advantage of the Educational Testing Service's website at <http://www.ets.org/praxis>, prior to your exam, to learn more about the *Praxis I* test.

Good luck on test day!

Specific test information contained in this handout was obtained from the Educational Testing Service's website, <http://www.ets.org>.

Last Update: 4/7/2011