Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105

The Background:

Tennessee State Board of Education Professional Assessments for Tennessee Educators Policy 5.105 outlines general assessment requirements, as well as pedagogical, specialty area content, and foundational literacy skills assessments.

This item makes revisions to the requirements for pedagogical and specialty area content assessments to ensure requirements for license issuance, renewal, and advancement are clear for all educators, regardless of preparation pathway.

To ensure consistency and accuracy, this item proposes the following revision to Section II: Pedagogical Assessment Requirements:

- Identifies edTPA title Agricultural Education as the pedagogical assessment for endorsements Agricultural Education 6-12 and AgriScience 6-12;
- Removes endorsement 450 Cons/Homemaking 5-12 as the endorsement is retired and no longer able to be obtained on a new license.

To ensure consistency and accuracy, this item proposes the following revisions to Section III: Specialty Area Content Assessments:

- Identifies Praxis 5701 (Agriculture) as the specialty area content assessment for endorsements Agricultural Education 6-12 and AgriScience 6-12;
- Revises the Business Education 6-12 endorsement to reflect the appropriate endorsement name Business 6-12 and bolds the endorsement, indicating the endorsement as a qualifying endorsement for assessment purposes;
- Makes revisions to the English as a Second Language, Health & Wellness, and Physical Education endorsement areas to add the applicable K-8 and 6-12 split endorsements and aligns the assessment for each of these new endorsements to the current assessment title;
- Amends the Integrated Early Childhood pre-K-3 endorsement to include all required assessments and associated assessment acceptance dates, as previously approved by the State Board;
- Amends and identifies new assessments for Family & Consumer Sciences 6-12, Special Education Comprehensive K-12, Interventionist K-8, and Interventionist 6-12 as current assessments are in the process of regeneration by ETS, the assessment vendor.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the Master Plan:

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Teachers and Leaders outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring alignment for license issuance, renewal, advancement, and reactivation across Educator and Instructional Leader License types.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first and final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.