



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

**EDUCATION**

**Guidance Related to Coronavirus (COVID-19):  
Prueba para la Certificación de Maestros (PCMAS) Scoring  
July 31, 2020**

**Background**

As a part of the District's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is offering this guidance document to educators and local educational agencies (LEAs) regarding scoring for the Spanish-language teacher licensing basic skills exam, Prueba para la Certificación de Maestros (PCMAS).

**Scope**

As a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, several jurisdictions, including Puerto Rico, were unable to successfully administer the PCMAS. The PCMAS consists of two and a half hours of multiple-choice reading, math, science, and social studies questions and 45 minutes of written response pedagogy. College Board, the entity responsible for administering and scoring the PCMAS, has indicated that in the absence of Puerto Rico's successful administration of the PCMAS, the written portion of the exam cannot be scored as there was not enough test-taker data to form an accurate reference score. However, College Board has agreed to score the multiple-choice portion of the exam and provide an amended cut score, which will be communicated to test-takers as a pass/fail. This document contains guidance to individuals who took the PCMAS in spring 2020.

**Date Issued**

This guidance was issued on July 31, 2020 and will remain in effect until further notice.

**Guidance**

During the COVID-19 Emergency Period, OSSE will accept PCMAS scores from applicants that receive a pass for the multiple-choice portion of the exam. The "COVID-19 Emergency Period" means the period during which the public health emergency declared by the Mayor is in effect, and 45 days thereafter.

PCMAS scores accepted under this guidance will satisfy the general reading, writing, mathematics skills and other general content knowledge examination requirement of the following District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR) provisions:

1. 5A DCMR § 1601.5(b);
2. 5A DCMR § 1601.9(a)(2);
3. 5A DCMR § 1601.9(c)(2); and,
4. 5A DCMR § 1601.9(d)(3).

**Questions**

If you have questions relating to this guidance, contact Elizabeth Ross at [Elizabeth.Ross@dc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Ross@dc.gov).

For resources and more information on the District of Columbia Government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit [coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov).