

# Updated Praxis Test and Cut Score Middle School Social Studies (5589)

**Division of Teaching and Learning Services**

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# Overview

## ETS, Praxis, Scoring

Educational Testing Service (ETS) develops, administers, and scores assessments required for educator certification in New Jersey.

The Praxis assessment series is the approved provider for the State test(s) of subject matter knowledge required for initial educator certification eligibility.

To update assessments, ETS designs and conducts multistate standard-setting studies and cut scores to align to national standards and knowledge necessary for entry into the profession.



# Assessment Redesign – Middle School Social Studies

## What Changed



### Instructional Focus

- Emphasizes critical thinking
- Connects history, geography, and economics



### Test Structure

- 140 multiple choice questions
- Testing time increased to 150 minutes



### Question Format

- Essays eliminated
- Selected – response only



# Assessment Redesign

## Alignment

The content of the redesigned Middle School Social Studies (5589) test aligns with:

- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) National Standards for Social Studies Teachers
- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies
- College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards
- National Standards for History (National Center for History in the Schools, 1996)
- National Geography Standards (National Council for Geographic Education, 2012)
- Voluntary National Content Standards for Economics (Council for Economic Education, 2010)



# Multistate Standard-Setting Study

## What is it and how is it used?

Determine a recommended passing score.

Panels of experienced educators and faculty; representatives from multiple states.

Defines minimum proficiency and produces a unified cut score recommendation.



# Resolution Content

The standard-setting study identified the level of knowledge necessary for entry into the practice of teaching in Middle School Social Studies with a raw score of 71, which is 149 on a 100-200 scale.

New Test Code	New Test Name	Proposed Cut Score	Effective Date	Existing Test Name	Current Cut Score	Expires
5589	Middle School Social Studies	149	9/1/2026	Middle School Social Studies (5089)	158	8/31/2026



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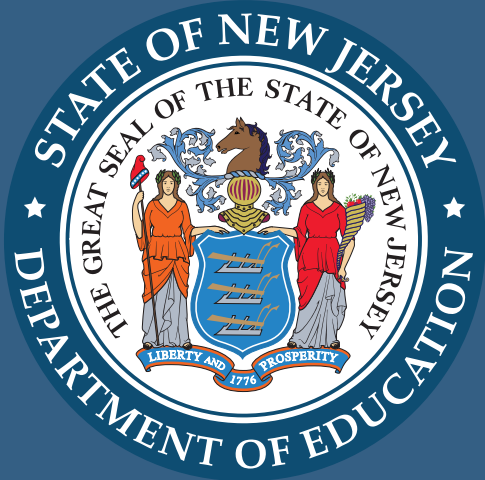
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