Adding Content Areas or Extending Grade Bands of Certification

Due to changes from recent legislation, Act 82 of 2018, the PA Department of Education is evaluating the testing needs and application process of expanding into the Special Education PK-8 or Special Education 7-12 grade bands.

More information can be found on PDE’s Act 82 Expansion Email site. Please view this PowerPoint for examples of extending Special Ed grade bands.

- Instructional I content areas can be added on to an Instructional certification by passing the required subject test(s). Certification areas offered as add-ons and the corresponding test(s) can be found on the PA Department of Education's website.
- The GPA Sliding Scale cannot be used. Candidates must earn a passing score on required tests.
- Certification areas can be added AFTER an initial certification:
  - Candidates who already hold an Instructional certification must submit a TIMS application and pay the administrative fee of $200 to receive certification for the add-on.

Find further details and apply through the PDE website.