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November 8, 2016

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents, Charter School Leaders and Deans and Directors of New Mexico's Educator Preparation Programs

**FROM:** Seana C. Flanagan, Assistant Director Educator Quality

**RE:** Adjustments to NES Cut Scores for Teacher Assessments

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In February of 2016 the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) in partnership with National Evaluation Systems (NES) held a standard setting meeting in Albuquerque to review and set cut scores for the NES Assessments required for initial licensure and endorsement in the state of New Mexico. State validation and standard setting committees composed of licensed teachers and educator preparation faculty reviewed and established cut score recommendations for twenty-three testing fields. Based on their review and recommendations the cut score on the following assessments will change on January 1, 2017.

<b>Field</b>	<b>National Benchmark</b>	<b>New Mexico Benchmark</b>
Art (503)	220	224
English Language Arts (301)	220	231
Middle Grades Mathematics (203)	220	225
School Counselor (501)	220	222
Mathematics (304)	220	222
EL ED Sub 1 (102)	220	227
EL ED Sub 2 (103)	220	228
Special Education (601)	220	224
Music (504)	220	224
Middle Grades General Science (204)	220	231
APK-Elem (051)	220	222
Spanish (401)	220	222

The cut score for all other required assessments will remain at the nation benchmark set by NES. Please direct any questions about these changes to Seana Flanagan, Assistant Director Educator Quality at [seana.flanagan@state.nm.us](mailto:seana.flanagan@state.nm.us) or Rebecca Reyes, Staff Manager Professional Licensure Bureau at [rebecca.reyes@state.nm.us](mailto:rebecca.reyes@state.nm.us).

SF/mkm