

Test Out Option for 21st Century Series Courses

Educators covered under the Classrooms for the Future professional development requirement may, with the district's permission, test-out of the courses "Differentiated Instruction in the 21st Century", "Inquiry in the 21st Century", and "Project-based Learning in the 21st Century" if they feel the content would be redundant to training they have received previously. In order to be eligible for the test-out option, the high school principal must certify, through using the provided observation tools, that the strategies contained in the course are prevalent, ongoing, and of sufficient quality for the teacher to be eligible for the test-out option. In the 2008-09 school year, testing sites and dates will be available.

The following courses are not eligible for the test-out option: "Teaching in the 21st Century: The Need for Change" and "Teaching Authentic Mathematics, Science, Language Arts or Social Studies in the 21st Century."

District Flexibility for Courses 3, 4, and 5

Once teachers have completed the first two courses in the series, districts have the flexibility for determining the order for the courses "Differentiated Instruction in the 21st Century", "Inquiry in the 21st Century", and "Project-based Learning in the 21st Century."

Test Out Option for 21st Century Teaching and Learning Series 2008-09 School Year

The test-out option enables eligible participants in the CFF grant to test out of courses during the 2008-2009 school year by receiving passing score on a written examination. Test-out option may only be given for the Differentiated Instruction, Inquiry-based, and Project-based courses. These are the last three courses in the 21st Century Series and may be taken in any order depending on availability.

If a teacher meets the eligibility requirements and successfully tests out of a course, the teacher is still responsible for completing the CFF requirement of 30 hours of approved professional development.

If a teacher opts to test-out of all 3 remaining courses, the district must provide 30 hours of professional development approved by PDE to substitute for the coursework.

What are the criteria for eligibility?

- Teachers must be covered under the CFF professional development requirement and have successfully completed “Teaching in the 21st Century: The Need for Change” and “Teaching Authentic Mathematics, Science, Language Arts or Social Studies in the 21st Century” courses.
- Teachers must obtain written district permission and receive a sign-off from their principal, using the provided observation tools, certifying that the strategies contained in the course are prevalent, ongoing, and of sufficient quality for the teacher to be eligible for the test-out option.
- The test-out option is not available for Graduate Credit versions of the courses.

How much time will I have to complete the test?

- Three hours for the written portion of the test which consists of 30-50 multiple choice questions and 3-4 essay questions.

What is the cost?

- The fee is \$50 which will be reimbursed after the day of the exam.

Why is the test out option offered?

- Eligible teachers have a means to demonstrate content knowledge and applications of this knowledge to classroom teaching without participation in a course.

How do I register?

- Be sure to obtain district and principal approval and sign off.
- Email cff_cs@embeddedlearningacademy.com for the instruction and registration form and the observation tools that must be completed and submitted prior to registration for the examination.
- After the district approval has been granted and the principal certification has been achieved, please complete and submit the registration located in the news section, www.embeddedlearningacademy.com/pde/21/news.

Testing

- All participants must present photo identification on the day of the test.
- Please arrive on time. Late arrivals will not be provided additional time.

No Show Policy

The \$50.00 fee will not be refunded for participants who do not cancel their registration three school days prior to the examination and do not show on the date of the exam.

Cancellation Policy

Learning Sciences International reserves the right to cancel for any reason and will provide at least a 24 hour notice for cancellation. An alternative date will also be provided at the time of cancellation.

Weather Emergency

In the event of a weather emergency, LSI will make the determination to cancel the testing and will contact the participants as early as possible. Rescheduling options will be made available.

Reporting Results

- Test results will be reported to the learner and district within one week of the test date by letter.
- Participants who do not pass are required to take the course they have selected to complete the test-out option for.

ACT 48 CREDITS WILL NOT BE AWARDED FOR THE TEST OUT OPTION.