

Puerto Rico Teacher Certification Exam Results 2014-2016

The following table compares the passing rates of UPRM graduates on the basic battery of Puerto Rico Teacher certification exams over the past three years with all test takers. The basic battery includes Fundamental Knowledge and Communication Skills and Professional Skills. The Professional Skills Exam is offered at Secondary (middle and high school) and Elementary levels. The exams are offered on a Saturday in March of each calendar year. A subsequent table provides a year by year comparison and greater detail.

The average passing rate for UPRM teacher candidates taking the Fundamental Knowledge and Communications Skills exam over the past three years is 94%. This reflects the UPRM TPP emphasis on breadth and depth of content knowledge and the rigor of UPRM general education requirements.

The average passing rate for UPRM teacher candidates taking the Professional Skills Exam over the past three years is 89%. Six UPRM teacher candidates have taken the Elementary Level over the past three years.

Based on UPRM teacher candidate performance on certification exams (80%) and other criteria (20%) the Puerto Rico Department of Education rated the UPRM Teacher Preparation Program as Excellent in 2014 (see 1.1.6B). The next rating will be issued in 2017 and the UPRM TPP target is an Exemplary rating.

PCMAS Certification Exam	Data 2014-2016	UPRM	ALL
Fundamental Knowledge ¹ and Communication Skills	N	261	5369
	# Passing	245	4229
	% Passing	94%	79%
Professional Skills ² Secondary & Elementary Levels	N	262	3015
	# Passing	234	2499
	% Passing	89%	83%

¹ Until 2016 the Fundamental Knowledge and Professional Skills Exams were given and scored separately.

² Less than 10 UPRM candidates have taken the Elementary Level exam over the past three years.

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Historically, a UPRM teacher candidate has made the highest score on 1 to 4 Puerto Rico Teacher Certification exams each year. Given that UPRM teacher candidates account for 5 - 20% of the test takers for any one certification exam, this attests to their consistent quality. For the past six years a UPRM teacher candidate has made one of the top three scores on the Secondary Level Professional Skills Exam including a perfect score in 2012 and two perfect scores in 2010. The following table includes A UPRM candidate made the top^T score on the Fundamental Knowledge and Communication Skills exam in 2015. The following table compares UPRM candidate performance with all Puerto Rico on the basic battery of Puerto Rico Teacher Certification Exams over the past three years.

PCMAS Certification Exam	Data	2016		2015		2014	
		UPRM	ALL	UPRM	ALL	UPRM	ALL
Fundamental Knowledge ³ and Communication Skills	N	64	1494	86	1659	111	2216
	# Passing	60	1213	80	1333	105	1683
	% Passing	94%	81%	93%	80%	95%	76%
	Median	113	103	118 ²	107	117 ²	103
	Average	113	104	118	108	116	105
	Min	78	59	77 ⁴	<60	83 ²	<60
	Max	145	148	159 ^T	159	151	160
Professional Skills ⁵ Secondary & Elementary Levels	N	64	1494	89	681 ³	109	840 ⁶
	# Passing	60	1213	77	589 ³	97	697 ³
	% Passing	94%	81%	87%	86%	89%	83%
	Median	113	103	114 ²	107 ³	113 ²	105 ³
	Average	113	104	109	107 ³	111	105 ³
	Min	78	59	72 ²	<70	71 ²	<70
	Max	145	148	152	<160	154	<160

³ Until 2016 the Fundamental Knowledge and Professional Skills Exams were given and scored separately.

⁴ Estimated from partially reported data.

⁵ Less than 10 UPRM candidates have taken the Elementary Level exam in three years.

⁶ Secondary for purposes of comparison – overall median, average, minimum, and maximum scores are lower for the Elementary Level.