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TIP SHEET

**Let's Talk About the
CBEST, CSET & GRE!**

Now that you are seriously thinking about applying to a Teaching Credential program, what types of exams will you need to prepare for? You must take and pass the following in order to remain eligible to begin a Teaching Credential program.

Exams that must be completed related to the Teaching Credential Programs:

- CBEST – California Basic Educational Skills Test
 - www.ctcexams.nesinc.com
- CSET – California Subject Examination for Teachers
 - www.cset.nesinc.com
- GRE – Graduate Record Examination – General Test (*only if you intend on applying to the MAT Program*)
 - www.gre.org

CBEST – California Basic Educational Skills Test:

- Required for ALL students pursuing a Science or Math teaching credential
- Intended to show that prospective teachers have proficiency in the basic skills of reading, writing, and mathematics
- Is **NOT** an evaluation of your teaching methods and skills
- Contains 3 sections: Mathematics, Reading & Writing
- Is a 4 hour exam
- Costs \$41
- Is a Pass/No Pass exam
- The scaled scores used for reporting CBEST results range from 20 to 80 for each of the three sections of the test.
- A total score (the sum of Reading, Mathematics, and Writing scaled scores) of 123 is required for passing status.

CSET – California Subject Examination for Teachers:

- Completing the Mathematics Subject Matter Preparation Program (SMPP), students have the option of waiving the CSET
- Required for ALL students pursuing a teaching credential
- Passing score satisfies state and federal subject matter competency requirements.
- Aligned with the most current California K-12 Student Academic Content Standards
- Costs \$70 per subtest for Science and Math
- Administered in the afternoon, test sessions are 5 hours in length
- Requires score of 220 out of 300 to pass

GRE – Graduate Record Examination:

- The GRE General Test is only required if you plan on pursuing a Master of Arts in Teaching at UCI
- Computer-based test available six days per week
- Tests verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing
- Costs \$140
- Is a 2.5 hours exam
- Scores for Verbal and Quantitative Reasoning sections are reported on a 200-800 scale in 10-point increments
- Analytical Writing scores are reported on a 0-6 score scale in half-point increments