New GRE Requirements for Teacher Education and Educational Leadership Programs

The New York State Education Transformation Act of 2015 requires graduate-level Teacher Education and Educational Leadership programs to establish rigorous admissions selection criteria which include a standardized admissions examination. Accordingly, effective with applications for Fall 2016, individuals who apply to any graduate program leading to New York State certification in classroom teaching and/or in educational leadership must submit their Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores to Queens College as part of their admission application.

We understand the timing, cost, and potential anxiety associated with taking such an examination. Please be assured that your test score will be but one element in the review of your overall application and will not be given greater importance than other factors. We also want to provide you with the opportunity to submit your application for Fall 2016 and have it reviewed even if you have not yet taken the GRE. Therefore, individuals who apply for Fall 2016 matriculation but who have not submitted their GRE scores may still be conditionally accepted, but must submit evidence of having taken the GRE exam by January 20, 2017; in this case, your score will not retroactively alter your admission status/decision.

Q. Can I be admitted to start my program in Fall 2016 if I have not yet taken the GRE?

A. Yes. Even if you have not yet taken the GRE, you should apply for the Fall 2016 semester and your application will be reviewed. Individuals whose application materials demonstrate their potential to positively contribute to the teaching and/or educational leadership profession may be admitted conditionally and will have additional time – until January 20, 2017 – to submit evidence of having taken the GRE exam.

Individuals who apply for Spring 2017 admission and later must include their GRE scores at the time they apply.

Q. Are all programs affected?

A. The GRE requirement applies to all graduate programs that lead to New York State certification in classroom teaching and/or educational leadership. This includes initial certification, professional certification, and advanced certificate programs. The regulations do not affect admission requirements to graduate-level programs in disciplines other than teacher education or educational leadership nor do they affect graduate-level programs in education which do not lead to NYS certification.

For further program-specific information, please see the complete list of graduate program offerings on the Graduate Admissions Degree Programs page: http://www.qc.cuny.edu/admissions/graduate/degree/Pages/GradDegreeLanding.aspx. Each program has a link to its own page where program overview, advisement information, and program-specific admission requirements can be viewed.
Q. Which GRE test should I take?

A. You should register for and take the GRE General Test. There are currently no Teacher Education or Educational Leadership programs that require a GRE Subject Test. Please refer to specific program pages for further details: http://www.qc.cuny.edu/admissions/graduate/degree/Pages/GradDegreeLanding.aspx

Q. How do I register for the GRE?

A. For complete information on the GRE examination – including information on test centers and dates, test overviews, exam preparation, etc. – please visit the Educational Testing Service website at http://www.ets.org/gre.

Q. How can I prepare for the GRE?

A. ETS offers both free preparation materials and materials for purchase. Test preparation software, study guides, and courses are available for purchase from many other vendors as well.

Q. What is the minimum GRE score?

A. There are no minimum scores that guarantee admission. Each program takes into consideration all the elements of an application.

Q. I took the GRE more than five years ago. Will you accept it?

A. GRE test scores are valid for five years after the testing year in which you tested (July 1-June 30). You will need to take the test again if your scores are more than five years old.

Q. I am currently enrolled in (or have already completed) a graduate-level program in teacher education. Now I want to apply to another program. Do I still need to take the GRE?

A. Yes. You must take the GRE for admission to any graduate-level Teacher Education or Educational Leadership program that leads to New York State certification, unless you have already taken the GRE within the last five years.

Q. I took the GRE, but didn’t have the score reported to Queens College at the time. How do I have the score reported now?

A. There are several options available for score reporting which can be viewed on the following web page: http://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/scores/send/asr.

Q. What is the Institutional Code for Queens College?

A. The institutional code number of Queens College is 2750.

Q. Who can I contact if I have further questions about the application process and the GRE that aren’t answered here?

A. The Office of Graduate Admissions can answer most questions. They can be reached by email at GraduateAdmissions@qc.cuny.edu and via telephone at (718) 997-5200.

For further information on the GRE examination itself, please visit the Educational Testing Service website at http://www.ets.org/gre.