Summary of CORE Assessment 071 Middle School Science

The CORE Assessment 071 Middle School Science is a custom-developed licensure test based on Indiana’s Educator Standards for Middle School Science that were revised and adopted by the Indiana State Board of Education in September 2019.

The 2019 revisions to the Educator Standards for Middle School Science were guided by recommendations made during the alignment study, by Indiana state educator reviewer comments, and by review of the Indiana Academic Science Standards (Grades 5–12) and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Revisions include:

- Updating language for consistency;
- Updating language to match terminology used in the Indiana Academic Science Standards and the NGSS standards;
- Clarifying topics to remove ambiguity (e.g., that the origin of major landforms includes general landforms as well as those in Indiana);
- Expanding upon topics to remove restrictive language (e.g., "processes involved in the formation of igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks" became "processes involved in the rock cycle");
- Removing topics to eliminate redundancy (e.g., the use of renewable and nonrenewable energy resources is no longer mentioned twice);
- Removing topics to reflect appropriateness of topics for middle school educators (e.g., de-emphasizing genetic engineering, removal of "methods of genetic engineering," de-emphasizing the use of energy in homes);
- Changing emphasis of topics to reflect national standards (e.g., modifications to include a standard on engineering design, combining chemistry and physics into physical science, examining human impacts); and
- Including topics important to Indiana state educators (e.g., effect of viruses and bacteria on humans, examining state and national standards, science and engineering instructional strategies in real-world scenarios).

The Educator Standards for Middle School Science are found here: https://www.doe.in.gov/licensing/repa-educator-standards

The test blueprint and study guide for 071 Middle School Science can be found here: http://www.in.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML_FRAG/IN071_PrepMaterials.html

The proposed/recommended cut score for 071 Middle School Science is in Table 1 below:
Table 1: Indiana CORE Phase 1 Test Fields Panel-Recommended Cut Scores and Associated SEM Adjustments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Field</th>
<th>Total # of Scorable Items</th>
<th>-2 SEM</th>
<th>-1 SEM</th>
<th>Panel Recommended Cut Score</th>
<th>+1 SEM</th>
<th>+2 SEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>068 Computer Science</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>069 Middle School English Language Arts</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>070 Middle School Mathematics</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>071 Middle School Science</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
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