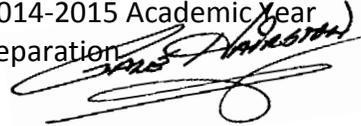


To: MABEP Members

Topic: Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments for the 2014-2015 Academic Year

From: Gale "Hap" Hairston, Ed.D. – Director, Educator Preparation

Date: Thursday – September 18, 2014



Frequently Asked Questions:

Missouri Educator Profile (MEP)

- Q. Who sees the results of my Missouri Educator Profile?
 - A. *You, the student, will see your results, and your results will be sent to the college or university that you have selected. It is recommended that you meet with your advisor and go over your results.*
- Q. Will future employers have access to MEP scores?
 - A. *No, school districts will not have access to the MEP scores. It is the student's decision with whom they share their MEP scores.*
- Q. Last year, it was stated that students had to take the MEP twice. Is that still true?
 - A. *No, you are required to take the MEP at the entry of your educator preparation program. Although it is not a state requirement, some preparation programs may choose to have you complete the MEP immediately preceding your last field and/or clinical experience.*
- Q. The MEP compares my scores to "effective" Missouri educators. Who are they?
 - A. *The normative group was made up of educators (teachers of all grade levels, counselors, librarians, and school leaders) who were nominees and teachers of the year, former Select Teachers As Regional Resources (STARR) teachers, National Board teachers, members of the Missouri Council of School Administrators (MCSA) and Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL), and those in effective schools shown by growth.*
- Q. I understand that the MEP is used for other certification areas. Is that true?
 - A. *No, the MEP helps us to understand the fit between a candidate's work styles and those exhibited by effective educators. It is not based on the certification area in which you teach.*
- Q. Where do I go to take the MEP?
 - A. *The MEP is an internet-based survey. You may complete it from any computer connected to the internet.*
- Q. What is the passing score on the MEP?
 - A. *There is not a passing score. This is an assessment of work style preferences used to support the development of effective educator work styles.*

Missouri General Education Assessment (MoGEA)

- Q. I passed four of the five CollegeBASE subtests. Do I have to take the complete MoGEA?
 - A. Yes, candidates who have not passed the complete CollegeBASE assessment, which includes all subtests, will have to pass the new Missouri General Education Assessment that began on September 23, 2013.
- Q. I passed all five subtests of the CollegeBASE. Will my scores expire? If so, when?
 - A. If you have passed all five subtests, your scores will be valid until December 31, 2016, and will count towards the completion of your educator preparation program.
- Q. Are you allowed to take breaks while taking this assessment?
 - A. Starting September 2, 2014, there will be two (2) 15-minute breaks built in for those who are taking the complete MoGEA. This includes all five (5) subtests. If you have registered to take a test prior to September 2, you may cancel your registration and re-register for a date after September 2, 2014.
- Q. How soon will I receive my score report?
 - A. MEGA Score Report Dates are provided at www.mo.nesinc.com.
- Q. How do I find out the passing scores on each of the subtests?
 - A. Your dean and/or unit leader at your college/university will have this information.
- Q. Will preparation programs be changing their passing scores for 2014-2015?
 - A. Educator preparation programs were given the option to change their selected scores. Your dean and/or unit leader at your college/university will have this information.
- Q. How does a student prepare for the MoGEA?
 - A. There are preparation materials (study guide, reference material, and practice test) available at www.nesinc.com.
- Q. Where do I go to take the MoGEA?
 - A. During the online registration process you will be asked to select a test center. The list of cities that have test centers is available at www.nesinc.com.
- Q. Is it possible to take each subtest individually?
 - A. Yes, you may take subtests individually, consecutively, or multiple subtests per sitting. Please note that it is cheaper to take the assessment as a whole versus taking the subtests individually.
- Q. Is it okay to use calculators on this assessment?
 - A. Yes. A built-in calculator is provided.

Missouri Content Assessments

- Q. Where do I find information about the new Missouri Content Assessments?
 - A. You can find information at www.mo.nesinc.com.
- Q. Why are we switching from the Praxis II Assessment Series?

- *A. New assessments were developed to align to the current Missouri Standards for the Preparation of Educators (MoSPE) and Missouri's new teacher standards quality indicators.*
- Q. When does the change occur?
 - *A. The Missouri Content Assessments administered by Evaluation Systems group of Pearson will be available starting September 2, 2014.*
- Q. How long will my Praxis II score(s) be valid?
 - *A. All Praxis II scores taken on or prior to August 31, 2014, will be valid through December 31, 2016, towards the completion of your educator preparation program.*
- Q. How soon will I receive my score report?
 - *A. MEGA Score Report Dates are provided at www.mo.nesinc.com.*
- Q. Is it possible to travel to another state to take the Praxis II Content Test?
 - *A. The Praxis II assessment is no longer a Missouri-approved test and a score taken in another state will not be accepted in Missouri.*
- Q. What do you mean by "approved" tests?
 - *A. Approved tests are those that have been approved by the Missouri State Board of Education and are required for Missouri certification.*
- Q. I have been told that there are certain certification areas that require students to pass more than one of the Missouri Content Assessments.
 - *A. If you are seeking certification in one of the following areas -- Elementary Education, Social Studies, Unified Science, and Mild Moderate Cross Categorical -- you will need to pass more than one of the Missouri Content Assessments. The required list of content assessments is provided at www.mo.nesinc.com.*
- Q. How does the "Highly Qualified Teachers" (HQT) requirement impact the number of assessments that I am required to pass?
 - *A. Highly Qualified Teachers have to meet federal guidelines that require passing one or more state assessments.*
- Q. How soon will I be able to register for the new content assessments?
 - *A. You may register now. Registration opened on July 23, 2014.*
- Q. Is it true that some of the Missouri Content Assessments have subtests? Why?
 - *A. Yes. Some Missouri Content Assessments have subtests to cover all areas of content.*
- Q. Is it possible to take the subtests individually?
 - *A. Yes. You may take subtests individually, consecutively, or multiple subtests per sitting. Please note that it is cheaper to take the assessment as a whole versus taking the subtests individually.*
- Q. Is it okay to use calculators on this assessment?
 - *A. Yes. A built-in calculator is provided.*
- Q. Why are some tests more expensive than others?
 - *A. Some tests are more expensive because they are made up of more than one subtest. Tests that contain a constructed response item must be hand-scored and are more expensive.*

- Q. Where do I go to take the Missouri Content Assessments?
 - A. *You may choose a test center during the online registration process.*
- Q. Who will be setting the Missouri Qualifying Scores?
 - A. *The Missouri State Board of Education will be setting the Missouri Qualifying Scores.*
- Q. How and when will the scores be set?
 - A. *Scores are set after the initial administration of the assessment. The score is determined using impact data from those who have taken the test after the score setting event.*
- Q. How will I learn that I have either passed or failed the Missouri Content Assessments?
 - A. *Pearson will send score reports to students.*
- Q. Is it possible to still add certification areas by passing the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment?
 - A. *Yes.*
- Q. For the assessments with subtests, do I have to pass all subtests in order to receive my certificate?
 - A. *Yes.*
- Q. How will the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education receive my scores?
 - A. *The Department will automatically receive Missouri Content Assessment scores through a secure data system.*

Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment (MoPTA)

- Q. Student teachers from our preparation program participated in the MoPTA pilot in Fall 2013. We were told that it was going to be implemented in Fall 2014 but then was delayed. Why did this occur?
 - A. *Due to the policy at some districts, videotaping of teacher candidates in classrooms was limited. As a result, MoPTA is delayed until Fall 2015.*
- Q. Will students be able to use the MoPTA during the Fall 2014 and/or Spring 2015 semesters?
 - A. *Yes, and there will be no charge. It will be up to the educator preparation program to decide if they want to use the MoPTA this year as alternatives are being considered for the 2015 launch.*
- Q. How will we know whether or not the MoPTA will be used by our preparation program?
 - A. *You will need to contact your dean and/or unit leader at your educator preparation program.*
- Q. Will the MoPTA be a certification requirement for 2014-2015?
 - A. *It is not a state requirement for 2014-2015. However, your college or university may choose to require it.*

Requirements for Juniors and Seniors

- Q. What are the requirements for seniors graduating in Fall 2014 and/or Spring 2015?
 - A. *They must do the following:*
 - *Missouri Educator Profile at least once; second time is optional.*
 - *Pass either the CollegeBASE or Missouri General Education Assessment.*
 - *Pass the appropriate Praxis II or Missouri Content Assessment in their Content Area as well as "Add-On" certification areas. Coursework is no longer enough for "Add-On". This is a requirement from No Child Left Behind-Highly Qualified Teachers (HQT).*
 - *Use the MoPTA for their student teachers at no cost to the students or colleges and universities.*

- Q. What are the requirements for juniors rising to seniors in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016?
 - A. *They must do the following:*
 - *Take the Missouri Educator Profile at least once; second time is optional*
 - *Pass either the CollegeBASE or Missouri General Education Assessment*
 - *Pass the appropriate Praxis II or Missouri Content Assessment in their Content Area as well as well as any additional areas of certification. This is a requirement from No Child Left Behind-HQT.*
 - *Pass all Tasks 1-2-3-4 of the MoPTA.*