

Spring 2016-Submission Schedule

<i>DEADLINE</i>	<i>DATE</i>
Registration Opens	July 15, 2015
Registration Closes	January 28, 2016
<i>Task Submission</i>	
Task 1 Submission Opens	January 7, 2016
Task 1 Submission Deadline	February 4, 2016
Task 2 & 3 Submission Open	Completion of Task 1
Task 2 & 3 Submission Close	March 3, 2016
Task 2 & 3 Score Reporting to Candidates	March 31, 2016 – Completion of Task 2 and 3
Task 4 Submission Open	March 31, 2016
Task 4 Submission Close	April 29, 2016
Overall Composite Scores Released to Candidates	May 27, 2016
Overall Composite Scores Available to EPP	May 31, 2016
<i>Task Resubmission Window</i>	
Resubmission Registration Window	May 27, 2016 – June 17, 2016
Resubmission Window	May 27, 2016 – June 17, 2016
Resubmission Scores Released to Candidate	July 11, 2016
Resubmission Scores Available to EPP	July 12, 2016

Registration and Beginning Task 1 - FAQs

Student and Parent Questions:

Q: What is the registration fee for the MoPTA?

A: The fee is \$275.

Q: What financial assistance is available for students to cover the cost of the MoPTA?

A: ETS will provide a fee reduction to a number of candidates each year. The candidates must meet specific income qualifications to be eligible. Candidates will register first and then apply for financial assistance. Educator preparation programs will be asked to verify the financial need of the student. Refunds for \$100 will be issued directly to the candidates who meet the requirements.

Q: So, voucher codes must be entered before the student pays at all? I thought it was a reimbursement type situation.

A: Yes. Candidates with voucher codes will enter those at registration

Q: Can students receive a full refund if they register for the incorrect version of the MoPTA?

A: ETS will work with individual students to change their registration.

Q: What resources are available on the MoPTA and DESE Website?

A: The website is designed to support students, cooperating teachers, faculty, and supervisors. The MoPTA website provides public access on information about the assessment, the tasks, rubrics, various support materials, glossary resource, and sample forms. Resources are also available on the DESE website.

Q: What standards do the teacher candidates write to? For example, Teacher Candidate A is student teaching in Nebraska and Teacher Candidate B is student teaching in Iowa. What standards do they align their teaching and learning to?

A: This assessment was developed and aligned to the Missouri Model Teacher Standards, Quality Indicators and the Professional Continuum. Each task outlines which standards and quality indicators are being measured. Candidates will write to the Missouri Standards, Quality Indicators, and the Professional Continuum regardless of the geographic location of their student teaching placement.

Q: What assistance will be available for candidates, faculty and/or supervisors to navigate the registration process?

A: ETS and the Department developed a webinar that included the registration process with a step by step process with screen shots.

Q: Will a version of this "tutorial" be made available from a student's perspective as they begin this process?

A: There is a user guide which shows some of these screen shots that students may review as a tutorial.

Q: Some students may not know if they will be able to do the video at registration. How late can they change?

A: It is imperative that candidates who have registered for the wrong MoPTA to notify ETS as soon as possible.

Q: Will ETS give feedback on Task 1 in addition to EPP faculty?

A: No, ETS is not providing the candidate with feedback on Task 1. Students' only receive feedback on this task from their EPP faculty.

Q: Who will see the feedback?

A: Designated faculty members/supervisors will share their feedback. The candidate is the only one who will see it.

Q: Does the link to the artifact count towards the character count for that task?

A: No. The link to the artifact does not count towards the character count.

Q: What professional development activities will be provided for Task 1?

A: *The Department will coordinate efforts with ETS to provide professional development for EPP faculty, supervisors, and/or cooperating teachers. The activities will focus first on the MoPTA as a whole and then move to task by task presentations.*

Q: If I am ready to submit Task 1, and I am given a warning that I need permission forms downloaded and the video for Task 4 submitted, what do I do?

A: *You can ignore the warning and go ahead and submit*

Q: What is the deadline that our University Supervisors are supposed to have Task 1 evaluated/graded by?

A: *There is not a specified deadline for completing the review of the students Task 1 submission. We recommend providing feedback as soon as possible as the student moves forward with Tasks 2 & 3, but understand programs vary in size and resources and having an imposed date for all would be problematic.*

Q: Are there alternative writing prompts that can be used for special education, since academic work is conducted on a 1:1 basis?

A: *You cannot use alternative writing prompts for the assessment. You will need to utilize the prompts presented and work with them. Do your best to fit your students to these prompts and explain your situation from the very beginning.*

Faculty and Supervisor Questions:

Q: Who should we contact about purchasing vouchers that would be issued to candidates as part of a course fee?

A: *Vouchers can be purchased by contacting the MEGA ETS support center at 1.855.856-3714.*

Q: How will faculty/supervisors score Task 1 within the technology framework?

A: *The Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment (MoPTA) Task 1 Handbook is designed with the faculty/supervisors in mind. As a mentor of tomorrow's educators, these instructors have the task of preparing and guiding pre-service teachers through the MoPTA. This handbook can help. Throughout the guide, we suggest ways to engage the student teachers in reflection and in individual and peer activities that are aligned with the purposes of the MoPTA and the requirements of the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). A secondary aim of this handbook is to help coordinate support of teacher candidates in ways that strengthen and reinforce the efforts of both the instructors and the cooperating teachers. This handbook provides recommendations and suggestions for ways to integrate Task 1 in to the student teacher's experience.*

Q: Do we know how we get local access to evaluate Task 1?

A: *Instructions on obtaining access to the submission system for evaluating Task 1 has been available on the ETS website beginning July 15, 2015.*

Q: How will educator preparation programs score Task #1?

A: The MoPTA Handbook provides faculty and cooperating teachers with the resources to support and evaluate their candidates' work on Task 1. Evaluators will have access to Task 1 Rubrics and the Library of Examples that will provide actual responses at varying performance levels.

Q: Is holistic feedback on Task 1 the only feedback given? Do we assess each step, or the task as a whole?

A: We understand that programs will vary in the level of feedback and evaluation they provide their students on Task 1. With this in mind, EPP faculty should utilize the MoPTA Task 1 Handbook to help inform the level of feedback they plan to provide their students.

Q: Will we be able to see their scores from this page?

A: There is a process in which faculty/advisors will be able to track their candidates' process. ETS is identifying key points of contact at each preparation program.

Q: How can we have different rating systems for Task #1 for a standardized assessment? Doesn't that invalidate the instrument?

A: The MoPTA Handbook provides the rubric and scoring guide for Task 1. Your score/feedback on Task 1 is not included in the standardized scoring process. Task 1 is largely a formative task.

Q: Is there a way we can walk ourselves through a mock task submission so we can educate them before they do this themselves?

A: ETS and the Department conducted a series of webinars that were presented before the submission deadlines. Each webinar focused on a separate task and included submission information. These are available on the DESE website.

Q: Do University Supervisors give a score for each task or just one score for all of Task 1? Also, where is the score to be posted?

A: Task 1 is not scored as part of the MoPTA. However, depending on the requirements of your program it may be graded as part of the teacher candidate's EPP. MoPTA suggests assigning a grade for the overall effort when the work is submitted as a finished product. They also suggest providing formative feedback while teacher candidates complete task 1. It is important to submit all associated documents into the electronic submission system, because your candidates cannot proceed to any other MoPTA tasks until Task 1 is completed and uploaded.

Q: When scoring task 1, where do I enter the score?

A: The EPP instructor and cooperating teacher are to provide feedback. Since Task 1 is formative, it will not be scored online by raters and will not be part of your cumulative score for this performance assessment. However, this task is necessary and required for the candidate to move on to Tasks 2, 3, and 4.

Q: What professional development will be available for advisors, supervisors, faculty, and program leaders?

A: The Department will work with the ETS Development Team to prepare, schedule, and present professional development activities. The activities will be recorded and posted on the ETS and the Department websites. The Department has additional resources available to support regional meetings to discuss MoPTA.

Q: When will the professional development activities be announced and implemented?

A: The Department will work with the ETS Development Team to prepare, schedule, and present professional development activities. The activities will be recorded and posted on the ETS and the Department websites. The Department has additional resources available to support regional meetings to discuss MoPTA.

Q: Would it be possible to regularly schedule conference calls with the ETS Development Team to discuss time sensitive concerns and candidate perspectives?

A: The Department will establish a schedule to gather topics and forward them to ETS for review. The ETS Development Team will send their responses as scheduled to the Department for timely distribution to candidates, cooperating teachers, faculty, supervisors, and/or leaders.

Q: Where do we stand on recruiting and training MoPTA raters?

A: ETS has been actively recruiting educators to score the performance assessments since the development began. ETS continues to recruit with the intent of having a deep and diverse rater pool of Missouri educators. Additional raters will be needed, so please encourage your colleagues and cooperating teachers to sign-up to score the MoPTA. Instructions can be found on the ETS website on how to apply to become a rater. Here's the link to be a rater. Click link on right sidebar. <http://www.ets.org/ppa/educator-programs/teachers/about>

Q: Can institutions get a dummy account?

A: Educator preparation programs will not be given a dummy account.

