

## Administrative Memo

**Date:** June 3, 2014  
**To:** Missouri Educators and School Leaders  
**From:** Paul Katnik, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Educator Quality  
**Subject:** EQ-14-004 Timeline for the revision, testing implementation of the Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment (MoPTA)

In a May 27, 2014 memo, programs involved in teacher preparation, school districts and the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) were informed that the Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment (MoPTA) would not officially launch until the fall of 2015. This decision was based upon recent discussions regarding district policies which limit videotaping in classrooms, a requirement of Task 4. Creating an additional alternative to the MoPTA will require extended time for development and testing. The May 27 memo also indicated that a follow-up memo would be sent on June 3, which would provide additional details about the timeline for the revision, testing and implementation of MoPTA.

The proposed schedule for the development, testing and implementation of MoPTA, including an additional alternative for Task 4, is as follows:

1. The Department will gather input from all preparation programs and school districts in July and August regarding a non-video component of Task 4 of MoPTA.
2. A Development Committee will be established consisting of educators from the original MoPTA development effort, along with educators who participated in the piloting and scoring events. The Development Committee, consisting of approximately 20 participants, will begin meeting in September 2014.
3. The Development Committee will review all input gathered from educator preparation programs and school district stakeholders. The Committee will work under the direction of ETS to develop a non-video component of Task 4 of MoPTA.
4. Piloting of the new assessment will occur between January and April 2015. The Department, working with all educator preparation programs and their partnership school districts, will recruit students from each preparation program to participate in the pilot. There will be no cost to students for their participation in the pilot.
5. A scoring session based on the pilot will occur in May 2015. Training on the non-video component of MoPTA will be offered to all preparation programs.
6. Statistical Analysis of surveys and scoring data will occur in June 2015.
  - a) It is important to note that the total assessment with the existing Task 4 and the total assessment with the new Task 4 are two different assessments. Each will require its own standard-setting study and passing score.

- b) Scores on one assessment will not be comparable to the scores on the other. ETS will work with the Department and with Missouri educators to design and carry out a comparability study between the two different versions of the pre-service performance assessment.
- 7. An informational website will launch at the beginning of summer 2015.
- 8. The official launch of the MoPTA will occur in fall 2015.

One final note:

Preparation programs have asked if it is possible to use the MoPTA with the video component during the 2014-2015 academic year. ETS has given their permission for educator preparation programs to use the MoPTA Frameworks and Rubrics during the 2014-2015 academic year at no charge to students. The programs will be responsible for establishing timelines for the submission and scoring of the four tasks, including the use of video in school districts where board policies do not limit the use of video. For planning purposes, programs should use the current MoPTA Handbook available on the ETS website.

Should you have any questions regarding the information in this memo, please contact Christina Hudson ([christina.hudson@dese.mo.gov](mailto:christina.hudson@dese.mo.gov) or 573-751-1668) with the Office of Educator Quality. We look forward to a continued partnership with you as we work through the next step of this ongoing process.