

To: Educator Preparation Students and Parents
 Topic: Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments - An Investment in Your Profession
 From: Gale "Hap" Hairston, Ed.D. - Director, Educator Preparation
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Missouri Standards for the Preparation of Educators (MoSPE): On November 27, 2012, the Missouri State Board of Education approved the Missouri Standards for the Preparation of Educators (MoSPE). This is a comprehensive approach to educator preparation that includes several significant changes for students and educator preparation programs. This memo focuses on the changes regarding the assessments used in the preparation of educators.

The Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments (MEGA) is a comprehensive approach to assess the pre-professional development of students working for educator certification in Missouri. These assessments provide a common, statewide foundation of content knowledge, professional practice, and "what it takes to be an effective educator." The number and cost of these assessments have increased. The state board fully understands those implications; however, the focus is upon the development of quality educators for schools in Missouri. The assessments are spaced at different transition points throughout the preparation program. Your investment in MEGA is part of your commitment to becoming a Missouri educator.

The following information outlines each assessment including the purpose, transition point, implementation date, and cost:

General Education Assessment		
Purpose: Requires students to demonstrate basic general education competencies prior to being formally admitted to an educator preparation program. This General Education Assessment replaces the <i>College Basic Academic Subjects Examination (CollegeBASE or CBASE)</i> in September 2013.		
When: Students would take this assessment toward or at the end of the first two years of college.		
Test Format: Computer-Based @ Test Centers	Cost: \$49.00 All 5 Subtests; \$25.00 Per Subtest	
Development & Implementation Timelines		
August - September 2013	September 17, 2013	September 23, 2013
Finalize Assessment & Supporting Materials	Registration Opens @ www.Mo.nesinc.com	First Test Administration

Missouri Educator Profile		
Purpose: This is a brand new assessment for students enrolled in educator preparation programs. The initial results will provide the student and advisor with information about how the student's work styles match the work styles of successful teachers. The results also suggest ways in which the students can improve their work styles. This is an important step in helping the students choose whether or not professional education is the right career choice.		
When: Students will take this assessment twice. Students take the Missouri Educator Profile early in their preparation programs and prior to student teaching. A comparison of results should show growth as students move toward the completion of their professional studies.		
Entry Test Format: Computer-Based in identified courses	Entry Cost: \$22.00	
Exit Test Format: Computer-Based in identified courses	Exit Cost: \$22.00	
Development & Implementation Timelines		
September 3, 2013	Who Should Take the Test in Fall 2013 & Spring 2014?	
Registration opens and students can begin testing.	Students who will be applying for formal admittance into an educator preparation program.	Those who will be student teaching in Fall 2013 and/or Spring 2014.

Content Area Assessments		
Purpose: The results of these assessments are used to indicate that a student has a specific level of knowledge in their chosen content area(s). These assessments will replace the Praxis II Series beginning in September 2014.		
When: Students will take the content area assessments toward the end of the third year of college.		
Test Format: Computer-Based @ Test Center		Cost Depends upon Content Area: \$77.00 to \$189.00
Development & Implementation Timelines		
August 2013 to March 2014	March to August 2014	These new assessments will begin in September 2014.
Development of Assessment & Supporting Materials	Release of Registration & Preparation Materials	

Pre-Service Teacher Assessment		
Purpose: The performance assessments are new and designed for the students to recognize appropriate professional practice at entry and demonstrate appropriate practice during student teaching.		
When: The entry assessment would be taken upon students being formally admitted to their educator preparation program. The exit assessment would be completed during student teaching.		
Entry Test Format: Computer-Based @ Test Center		Entry Cost: \$75.00
Exit Test Format: Computer-Based Collection of Artifacts		Exit Cost: \$275.00
Development & Implementation Timelines		
August 2013 to March 2014	March to August 2014	These new assessments will begin in September 2014.
Development of Assessment & Supporting Materials	Release of Registration & Preparation Materials	

The development and implementation of these assessments are on a very aggressive schedule. The assessments have been developed and vetted with various stakeholder groups including content area specialists; P-12 educators; and our educator preparation programs. The Department has contracted with Evaluation Systems group of Pearson and Educational Testing Service to develop the MEGA. For additional information and possible changes regarding these assessments, please consult our website at: [Site Under Construction](#).

If you have any questions and/or need any additional information about MEGA, please email the Office of Educator Preparation at EQPrep@dese.mo.gov. We will be developing and updating a Frequently Asked Questions document in response to your inquiries.

Summary - Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments (MEGA)			
When	Name of the Assessment	Cost	Date Available
Prior to or at Entry	Missouri Educator Profile (New)	\$22.00	September 2013
Entry	General Education Assessment (Replaces the CBASE)	\$49.00 Complete \$25.00 Per Subtest for Retakes	
	Standards-Based Performance Assessment (New)	\$75.00	September 2014
Prior to Student Teaching	Content Area Assessments (Replaces the Praxis II Series)	Ranges from \$77.00 to \$189.00 Additional Fees for Retaking Subtests	September 2014
	Missouri Educator Profile (New)	\$22.00	September 2013
Student Teaching	Standards-Based Performance Assessment (New)	\$275.00	September 2014