

Preparing for the Missouri Content Assessments

- 1) **Go to the Prepare page** http://www.mo.nesinc.com/PageView.aspx?f=GEN_Prepare.html and select your Missouri Content Assessment (MoCA) from the drop down list.
- 2) **Go to the Tutorials section first** and view the videos on test preparation and test-taking strategies, especially if you have not previously taken a Pearson computer-delivered exam, such as MoGEA.
- 3) **Download and printout the Test Framework(s)** for the MoCA(s) that are required for your certification area(s) and put them in a binder so you can make notes as you are taking courses or working through the online study guide.
- 4) **Work through the free online study guide**, which includes sample questions, but is not a practice test.
- 5) **Take the official MEGA practice test.** This does cost \$29.95, but it is cheaper than taking the test again. Each official practice test is 100% aligned to test content and is designed to simulate the experience of taking the actual test. Practice tests include explanations for correct responses. Reviewing these rationales can help you focus your test prep. You have access to this material for 120 days from the time that you activate it, so it is recommended that you take the practice test at the beginning of the semester in which you plan to take the MoCA.
 - a. If you are student teaching in the spring semester, then you should plan to test no later than December, so you should consider taking the practice test in August.
 - b. If you are student teaching in the fall semester, then you should plan to test no later than the beginning of August, so you should consider taking the practice test in late April or early May.
 - c. However, if you are taking a multi-content exam, such as Secondary Social Science, you may wish to take individual subtests upon completion of the relevant course work rather than waiting until the semester prior to student teaching.
- 6) **Some exams also offer NES® test prep materials** from the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson, the creators of the MEGA assessments, which are not specifically designed for the MoCA, while the materials labeled MEGA are. However, if you are struggling with an exam, these resources may be beneficial.
 - a. NES® Practice offers full-length practice tests that address competencies and content similar to what you experience on a MEGA test, and may provide a helpful additional resource for preparation. There may be overlap in the items included within the two practice tests (MEGA and NES) for a given test field. Tests are available for 10 fields and include explanations of correct responses.
 - b. NES® Prep interactive study guides address competencies and content similar to what you may experience on a MEGA test, and may provide a helpful additional resource for preparation. Guides are available for many content assessments and include a diagnostic test, instructional content (selected guides), and review exercises. Each field-specific, comprehensive study guide includes:
 - A diagnostic test to help you pinpoint areas to focus your study
 - Sample test questions with explanations for each correct answer
 - In-depth coverage of each test competency
 - Review questions at the end of each chapter
 - A guide to additional resources to expand your knowledge

7) Other test prep sources which may be helpful include:

- a. <https://www.khanacademy.org/> has materials for the following subject areas:
 - i. **Math** (008-Elementary Multi-Content Mathematics Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Mathematics, and 023-Mathematics)
 - ii. **Sciences** (009-Elementary Multi-Content Science Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Science, 016-Biology, and 018-Chemistry)
 - iii. **Health and Medicine** (041-Health and 044-Physical Education)
 - iv. **U.S. History** (010-Elementary Multi-Content Social Studies Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Social Science, and 071-Social Science)
 - v. **World History** (010-Elementary Multi-Content Social Studies Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Social Science, and 071-Social Science)
 - vi. **Grammar** (007-Elementary Multi-Content English/Language Arts Subtest, 011-Middle School Education: Language Arts, and 020-English)
 - vii. **Macroeconomics and Microeconomics** (010-Elementary Multi-Content Social Studies Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Social Science, 017-Business, 022-Marketing, and 071-Social Science)
 - viii. **US Government and Civics** (010-Elementary Multi-Content Social Studies Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Social Science, and 071-Social Science)
 - ix. **Finance and Capital Markets** (017-Business and 022-Marketing)
- b. <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/bee/study/study-resources> has materials for geography (010-Elementary Multi-Content Social Studies Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Social Science, and 071-Social Science)
- c. <https://www.icivics.org/teachers> has materials for government and U.S. history (010-Elementary Multi-Content Social Studies Subtest, 012-Middle School Education: Social Science, and 071-Social Science)