

## Missouri Content Assessment for Initial Teacher Certification Programs

### Alignment

**Alignment to National Standards.** Through the Missouri Content Assessment (MoCA) assessment, candidates demonstrate content competencies of Missouri Learning Standards (MLS) and national standards of individual content areas. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education provides content alignment tables showing how the MoCA is aligned to the MLS and national standards. The content alignment tables for two certification areas (secondary mathematics and mild/moderate cross-categorical education) are provided on page 9 as examples.

### Evidence Overview

**Use of Assessment as Part of the Quality Assurance System.** Candidates must earn a passing score on the MoCA before certification is awarded. The UCM EPP monitors performance on the MoCA and uses data to aid in continuous quality improvement.

**Details of Assessment Administration.** The MoCA is completed at a testing center or in an approved online setting. Candidates receive a preliminary pass/fail upon completion of the assessment with official scores available approximately one month after completion of the assessment.

**How the Evaluation is used to Measure Candidate Progress.** Candidates must attempt the MoCA prior to the student teaching semester. The passing score for all MoCAs is a scaled score of 220. The EPP monitors the first time pass rate, the number of attempts, and the scores received.

### Evidence and Analysis

**Directions Delivered to Candidates.** Teacher candidates are first informed of the MoCA requirement when plans of study are developed with their advisors. They are reminded of this requirement during subsequent advising sessions and by program coordinators. Specific instructions for how to register for the assessment are provided during student teaching informational sessions.

**Evaluation Instrument.** The MoCA consists of domains with sets of competencies for each individual certification area. Test items were developed to assess the content defined by the test competencies. During development, key state and national documents were reviewed. Missouri educator stakeholders reviewed the competencies for accuracy, freedom of bias, connection to job related skills, and importance for entry-level educators in Missouri. Missouri educators approved the test items. Final qualifying scores were determined by the State Board of Education.

**Assurance of Reliability and Validity.** This is a proprietary instrument. The MoCA assessments are part of the Missouri Educator Gateway Assessment (MEGA) program offered through Pearson Education.

## Presentation of Data

### Summary:

#### Fall 2020

- 82.4% of fall 2020 student teachers had passed the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment by the end of student teaching.
- Since completing student teaching, an additional 6 students have passed the appropriate MoCA. This means 91% of fall 2020 student teachers are now certified.
- Of the students who achieved a passing score prior to the completion of student teaching:
  - The mean number of attempts was 1.34.

#### Spring 2021

- 90.1% of spring 2021 student teachers had passed the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment by the end of student teaching.
- Since completing student teaching, an additional 12 students have passed the appropriate MoCA. This means 97% of spring 2021 student teachers are now certified.
- Of the students who achieved a passing score prior to the completion of student teaching:
  - The mean number of attempts was 1.25.

#### Fall 2021

- 85.3% of our fall 2021 student teachers had passed the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment by the end of student teaching.
- Since completing student teaching, an additional 6 students have passed the appropriate MoCA. This means 93% of spring 2021 student teachers are now certified as of May 2022.
- Of the students who achieved a passing score prior to the completion of student teaching:
  - The mean number of attempts was 1.2.

#### Spring 2022

- 88.3% of our spring 2021 student teachers had passed the appropriate Missouri Content Assessment by the end of student teaching. (Recent attempts are not included as there is a delay in score reporting from Pearson.)
- Of the students who achieved a passing score prior to the completion of student teaching:
  - The mean number of attempts was 1.2.

**Missouri Content Assessment Data  
Disaggregated by Nature of Program**

	Fall 2020		Spring 2021		Fall 2021		Spring 2022	
	Traditional (N=54)	Alternative (N=15)	Traditional (N=153)	Alternative (N=20)	Traditional (N=61)	Alternative (N=11)	Traditional (N=153)	Alternative (N=26)
Percent of ST passing by end of ST	84.8%	92.9%	90.1%	81.0%	85.0%	88.9%	87.6%	92.3%
Mean passing score	248.3	237.3	239.8	237.4	246.6	241.0	243.9	246.3
Mean number of attempts	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1

**Missouri Content Assessment Data  
Disaggregated by Program**

We use program level MOCA data to make decisions regarding curriculum. Because each of the assessments are different, we chose not to aggregate secondary program data.

		Percent of ST passing by end of ST	Mean passing score	Mean number of attempts
Early Childhood	Fall '20 (N=10)	90%	243.0	1.5
	Spring '21 (N=23)	82.6%	234.8	1.5
	Fall '21 (N=15)	86.7%	235.9	1.5
	Spring '22 (N=23)	78.2%	235.5	1.3
Elementary	Fall '20 (N=15)	78.6%	241.4	1.4
	Spring '21 (N=53)	92.7%	241.8	1.4
	Fall '21 (N=21)	87.7%	242.1	1.3
	Spring '22 (N=51)	88.2%	248.7	1.1
Middle School	Fall '20 (N=7)	85.7%	240.2	2.0
	Spring '21 (N=15)	86.7%	231.3	1.5

	Fall '21 (N=7)	85.7%	235.7	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=16)	75%	242.7	1.2
Spec. Education	Fall '20 (N=3)	100%	226.0	1.0
	Spring '21 (N=14)	100%	250.8	1.1
	Fall '21 (N=3)	66.7%	253.7	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=12)	100%	250.3	1.1
Phys. Education	Fall '20** (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '21 (N=5)	100%	234.4	1.0
	Fall '21 (N=3)	100%	244.0	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=12)	91.7%	235.7	1.3
Family and Consumer Science	Fall '20 (N=1)	100%	246.0	1.0
	Spring '21 (N=3)	33%	218.0	2.0
	Fall '21 (N=1)	0%	214	2.0
	Spring '22 (N=6)	100%	235.8	1.0
Sec. Agriculture	Fall '20 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '21 (N=3)	100%	262.3	1.0
	Fall '21 (N=1)	100%	242.0	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=5)	100%	254.4	1.0
Sec. Biology	Fall '20 (N=0)	-	-	-

	Spring '21 (N=3)	67%	217.3	1
	Fall '21 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '22 (N=2)	100%	240.0	1.0
Sec. Business	Fall '20 (N=1)	100%	223	2.0
	Spring '21 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Fall '21 (N=1)	100%	229.0	2.0
	Spring '22 (N=7)	100%	249.0	1.0
Sec. Chemistry	Fall '20 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '21 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Fall '21 (N=1)	100%	253.0	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=0)	-	-	-
Sec. Engineering and Technology	Fall '20 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '21 (N=1)	100%	250.0	1.0
	Fall '21 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '22 (N=1)	0%		
Sec. English	Fall '20 (N=3)	100%	237.4	1.6
	Spring '21 (N=7)	100%	228	1.0
	Fall '21 (N=4)	50%	218.8	1.5
	Spring '22 (N=9)	77.8%	245.6	1.3

Sec. Mathematics	Fall '20 (N=1)	100%	252	2
	Spring '21 (N=3)	66.7%	216.0	1.7
	Fall '21 (N=1)	100%	264.0	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=7)	85.7%	244.6	1.3
Sec. Modern Languages	Fall '20 (N=1)	100%	243	1.0
	Spring '21 (N=2)	50%	213.5	1.0
	Fall '21 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '22 (N=1)	100%	245	2
Sec. Social Science	Fall '20 (N=6)	100%	250.3	2.0
	Spring '21 (N=5)	80%	231.0	2.2
	Fall '21 (N=7)	57.1%	219.4	1.6
	Spring '22 (N=7)	100%	240.1	2.3
Sec. Speech Theater	Fall '20 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Spring '21 (N=0)	-	-	-
	Fall '21 (N=1)	100%	246.0	1.0
	Spring '22 (N=2)	100%	243	1
Art	Fall '20 (N=1)	100%	285.0	1.0
	Spring '21 (N=5)	80%	241.0	1.2
	Fall '21 (N=1)	100%	241.0	1.0

	Spring '22 (N=7)	85.7%	233.8	1
Music	Fall '20 (N=3)	100%	238.7	1.3
	Spring '21 (N=11)	100%	239.7	1.1
	Fall '21 (N=3)	100%	238.0	1.3
	Spring '22 (N=11)	100%	244.6	1.1
Library Science	Fall '20 (N=5)	80%	223.7	1
	Spring '21 (N=2)	100%	255	1
	Fall '21 (N=3)	-	-	-
	Spring '22 (N=3)	100%	258.5	1

**Missouri Content Assessment Data  
Disaggregated by Race**

	Fall 2020		Spring 2021		Fall 2021		Spring 2022	
	White (N=58)	Students of Color (N=8)	White (N=158)	Students of Color (N=15)	White (N=66)	Students of Color (N=6)	White (N=162)	Students of Color (N=11)
Percent of ST passing by end of ST	85.4%	88.2%	90.3%	87.0%	85.0%	83.3%	87.7%	100%
Mean passing score	242.7	232.1	239.9	237.8	246.6	243.8	244.9	237.9
Mean number of attempts	1.4	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.2

**Missouri Content Assessment Data  
Disaggregated by Gender**

	Fall 2020		Spring 2021		Fall 2021		Spring 2022	
	Male (N=19)	Female (N=48)	Male (N=29)	Female (N=144)	Male (N=9)	Female (N=63)	Male (N=39)	Female (N=135)
Percent of ST passing by end of ST	78.1%	89.1%	96.0%	88.5%	77.8%	86.0%	94.9%	86.7%
Mean passing score	240.9	241.0	239.9	241.1	244.7	246.4	242.6	244.8
Mean number of attempts	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.2

**Missouri Content Assessment Data  
Disaggregated by First Generation Status**

	Fall 2020		Spring 2021		Fall 2021		Spring 2022	
	First Gen (N=11)	Not First Gen (N=58)	First Gen (N=29)	Not First Gen (N=136)	First Gen (N=14)	Not First Gen (N=46)	FirstGen (N=59)	Not FirstGen (N=117)
Percent of ST passing by end of ST	85.4%	82.6%	87.0%	91.0%	72.4%	86.9%	86.4%	88.9%
Mean passing score	242.5	241.2	240.9	239.5	228.1	241.8	246.4	243.2
Mean number of attempts	1.2	1.8	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2