

Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment (MoPTA) in a nutshell...

The Missouri Pre-Service Teacher Assessment (MoPTA) is an evidence-based performance assessment designed to assess the instructional capability of pre-service teachers prior to receiving their teaching license and is required for all teacher candidates completing their student teaching experience in the state of Missouri. The assessment contains four tasks requiring written commentary and submission of artifacts, including student work and teacher instructional materials. A candidate must receive a passing score for all four tasks in order to be eligible for initial teacher certification.

The four tasks are:

Task 1: knowledge of students and the learning environment (formative)

- Candidate will demonstrate the knowledge and skills that pertain to understanding the classroom with regard to students, the school, and the community, and will identify implications of these factors on instruction and student learning.

Task 2: assessment and data collection to measure and inform student learning (summative)

- Candidate will demonstrate understanding, analysis, and application of assessment and data collection to measure and inform student learning.

Task 3: designing instruction for student learning (summative)

- Candidate will demonstrate ability to develop instruction, including the use of technology, to facilitate student learning.

Task 4: implementing and analyzing instruction to promote student learning (summative)

- Candidate will demonstrate ability to plan and implement a lesson that uses research-based instruction, show ability to adjust instruction for the whole class as well as for individual students within the class, and demonstrate an understanding of reflective practice.

Task 1 is evaluated by the educator preparation program. Tasks 2, 3 and 4 are centrally scored by at least two trained DESE raters.