Missouri
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
EDUCATION™

Office of Educator Quality

205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480 • Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480 • dese.mo.gov

To: Students Enrolled in a Missouri Educator Preparation Program
Topic: Field Testing – New General Education Assessment
From: Gale "Hap" Hairston, Ed.D. – Director, Educator Preparations
Date: Tuesday – May 28, 2013

The Missouri State Board of Education approved the Missouri Standards for the Preparation of Educators (MoSPE) on November 27, 2012. With the development of a new set of standards, it was imperative for Missouri to update the required assessments for students working toward Missouri Teacher Certification. The new series of assessments is entitled "Missouri Educator Gateway Assessments" (MEGA).

What is MEGA? It is a new assessment program that measures content knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, and dispositions and work styles of candidates seeking educator licensure in Missouri. The *General Education Assessment (GEA)* is one of the new assessments and is designed to measure competencies in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. *GEA* will replace the *CollegeBASE* assessment beginning on September 3, 2013. The GEA is in its final stages of development. The subtests for English/Language Arts and the Writing Assessment will be field tested between June 10-17, 2013. We would like to give you the opportunity to be part of the development team.

What is a field test? An important step in the test development process is the field testing of newly developed test questions. The purpose of field testing is to collect information on the performance of test questions. Multiple-choice items for the English/Language Arts subtest and writing assignments for GEA will be field tested.

Who can take the field test? Those eligible to participate in the field test are candidates who either are planning to seek admission into, or who are currently enrolled in, a Missouri-approved teacher preparation program. Faculty members at teacher education programs are not eligible to participate.

What will I receive for participating in the Field Test? Students who complete the field test, will receive their choice of a $75 Penguins Book Gift Code or a $49 MEGA Test Fee Voucher. The codes will be provided by email to the students following confirmation of their participation in the field test. Students will also gain valuable experience in taking this new assessment as well as helping Missouri develop this new general education assessment.

How long will the field testing take? The field test will take approximately one and one half hours to complete.

What materials do I need to bring? This will be a paper/pencil test. All materials for the field test will be provided.

Will I receive a score for my field test? Because information from the field test will be used only to evaluate test questions, score information will not be provided to participants or institutions. Field test results will be analyzed as group data only and will be kept confidential.

Phone 573-751-1668 • Fax 573-522-6526 • EQPrep@dese.mo.gov

How can I participate in the field test? To participate in the field test, please go to the room designated at one of the four universities. PLEASE BE SURE TO BRING A VALID PHOTO ID (DRIVER'S LICENSE OR COLLEGE ID) FOR ADMITTANCE INTO THE FIELD TEST.

Where can I take the field test?	Dates & Field Testing Schedule
Harris-Stowe State University St. Louis **Professional Development Auditorium – Room 204** William L. Clay Early Childhood Development Parenting Education Center Contact: LaTisha Smith Email: SmithLa@hssu.edu (Preferred Method of Contact) Phone: 314-340-5084	Monday June 10, 2013 8:30 to 5:00 PM No Admittance After 4:00 PM
Parking: Building is located on the corner of Compton and Laclede. Drive under the archway, and park on the backside of the building. This is the entrance to the Higher Ed Side. Parking is available at the building's parking lot. You may take the stairs or ramp to enter the building. A campus map is available at: http://www.hssu.edu/sp_content.cfm?wID=50&pID=479.	
University of Missouri Columbia – Hill Hall #314 Contact: Jessica White Email: whitejess@missouri.edu Phone: 573-882-0560	Wednesday June 12, 2013 8:30 to 5:00 PM No Admittance After 4:00 PM
Parking: We suggest that you park in the Turner Avenue Garage. Metered parking is available to visitors on Level 3. Each metered space is numbered. If the space does not have a number, it is a space requiring a permit. Park in any numbered space. Fee machines are located at each of the stairwells on Level 3. Fee machines accept coins, currency, or credit cards. After payment is made, the machine will issue a receipt. Place the receipt face-up on the driver's side of your dashboard. Metered spaces are enforced from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. Printable campus map is available at: http://www.ps.missouri.edu/WebWelcome/~Perm/VisitorMap.pdf	
University of Missouri Kansas City – Haag Hall #301 Contact: LaVerne Berkel Email: berkell@umkc.edu Phone: 816-235-2450	Friday June 14, 2013 8:30 to 5:00 PM No Admittance After 4:00 PM
Parking: We suggest that you park in the Pay Station metered parking lot 44 that is available to all visitors. The lot is at the corner of 53rd Street & Holmes. Each space is numbered. The Fee Machine is located at the north end of the parking lot next to Grant Hall. The fee machine accepts coins, or currency of $1, $5, $10, or $20. Instructions on how to pay can be found on the Pay Station Metered Parking Machine. After payment is made, the machine will issue a receipt. Metered spaces are enforced from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday thru Friday. If you have any questions, please contact the Parking Operations Office at 816-235-5256. A campus map is available at: http://www.umkc.edu/maps/documents/volker_maps/UMKC_Volker_park.pdf.	
Drury University in Springfield – Lay Hall #310 Contact: Barbara Quas Email: bquas@drury.edu Phone: 417-873-7329	Monday June 17, 2013 8:30 to 5:00 PM No Admittance After 4:00 PM
Parking: We suggest that you park in Lot #6 – Benton (West of Benton Street & North of Central High School). Campus Map: http://www.drury.edu/vtour/. Lay Hall is Building #5 on the map. If you have any questions, please contact Campus Security 417-873-7400.	

Pre-Registration Requested: Please use this link to Survey Monkey to pre-register for the field test: **http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZBB8HLH**. Your assistance in registering in advance gives us the opportunity to be prepared for the number of students to be tested and at what time at each site.

Questions: If you have any questions about the General Education Assessment Field Test, please email EQPrep@dese.mo.gov or call 573-751-1668.