

Massachusetts CTE Teacher Testing Program Design & Visual Communications Content Outline

Written and Performance Exam General Overview

- The intent of this exam is to assess the candidate's ability to teach the skills found in the Massachusetts Technical Education Framework.
- The written exam is a state-developed exam aligned to the frameworks which can be accessed [here](#). The performance exam is a NOCTI-developed teacher test and has been determined by DESE to align to the state frameworks.
- Many questions and tasks require a synthesis of knowledge based on experience in the field and may not be found in any book.
- Use this exam outline and the Massachusetts Technical Education Framework to focus your preparation for the exams.
- Candidates are encouraged to prepare for their written exam by reviewing textbooks and reference material which have been listed as part of this exam outline. These resources can be found using online search tools, online vendors, and websites.

Written Exam

- Number of Questions: 100
- Administration Time: 3 hours
- Passing Score: 70.0%
- Administration Method: Remote Proctored Online Testing Session

Written Exam Content Coverage

5% *Design and Visual Communications Health and Safety*

30% *Fundamentals of Design*

- Elements and Principles of Design
- Typography
- Color Theory

65% *Content Creation Skills*

- Vector-Based Skills
- Raster-Based Skills
- Photography
- Page Layout
- Website Design
- Animation
- Fundamental Technical Skills

Written Exam Reference Materials (Reference Current Edition)

- **Adobe Photoshop CC Classroom in a Book** by Andrew Faulkner and Conrad Chavez (Adobe Press)
- **Adobe Illustrator CC Classroom in a Book** by Brian Wood (Adobe Press)
- **Adobe InDesign CC Classroom in a Book** by Kelly Kordes Anton and John Cruise (Adobe Press)
- **Adobe Animate CC Classroom in a Book** by Russell Chun (Adobe Press)
- **Adobe Dreamweaver CC Classroom in a Book** by Jim Maivald (Adobe Press)
- **The Complete Manual of Typography** by Jim Felici (Adobe Press)
- **The Non-Designers Web Book** by Robin Williams and John Tollett (Peachpit Press)
- **The Non-Designers Design Book** by Robin Williams (Peachpit Press)
- **The Non-Designers Type Book** by Robin Williams (Peachpit Press)
- **ITTEN The Elements of Color** by Johannes Itten (Wiley)
- **Graphic Communications: The Printed Image** by Z.A. Prust (Goodheart-Willcox)

Materials Needed for the Written Exam

- A four-function calculator is included in the online testing system. No other calculators are permitted.
- Scrap paper and pencil/pen are permitted.

Written Exam Sample Items

Each question on the exam consists of one incomplete sentence or question followed by four choices. Some items reference an image or diagram. A few sample items are included below; the correct answer is designated with an asterisk (*).

A graphic that has several different links on it is called a(n):

- a. pixel map.
- b. gif map.
- c. web map.
- d. image map. (*)

What is an embedded style sheet?

- a. A style sheet that is placed in a single HTML document and only effects that document. (*)
- b. A style sheet that is placed in multiple HTML documents and only effect those documents.
- c. A style sheet that is placed in a document and only effects that document.
- d. Style sheets that are not placed in multiple HTML documents.

NOCTI Performance Exam

- Administration Time: 2 hour and 45 minutes
- NOCTI Criterion-Referenced Cut Score/Passing Score: 85.6%
- Administration Method: Onsite at a DESE approved Massachusetts Area Testing Center (MATC) location. Candidates must register and schedule their exam session through NOCTI.

Performance Exam Content Coverage

62% *Design: Computer Comprehensive – Prepare and Print Files*

Participant will use the materials and tools provided to create a final computer comprehensive. Steps include the following specifications provided for the layout, obtaining digital images from the evaluator, and notifying the evaluator when the job is complete.

38% *Layout: Redesign*

Participant will convert the provided image to a monochrome, add the image to the flyer, change the opacity, rename and save the file, export the file as a PDF, print, and notify the evaluator when the job is complete.

Performance Exam Requirements

Candidate Supplied

Candidates must bring all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), attire/uniform, and any other safety items routinely expected to be used by an employee in the related industry. If the candidate does not bring what is needed to safely complete all jobs on the exam as required in the workplace, the testing session will need to be rescheduled at the candidate's expense.

Site Supplied

Additional equipment and supplies needed to complete the jobs on the performance test will be provided by the testing site.

Performance Exam Site Requirements

Testing sites may have individual requirements based on location and any relevant and current guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).