

# Massachusetts Technical Teacher Testing Program

## Design & Visual Communications Content Outline

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### Written and Performance Exam General Overview

- The intent of this exam is to assess your ability to teach the skills found in the Massachusetts Technical Education Framework.
- This exam is aligned to the frameworks which can be accessed [here](#).
- Many questions and tasks require a synthesis of knowledge based on experience in the field and may not be found in any book.
- Candidates are encouraged to prepare for their exam by reviewing textbooks and reference material which has been listed as part of this exam outline. These resources can be found using online search tools, online vendors, and websites.
- Contact the Technical Teacher Testing Office if you need further assistance in locating resources listed in the exam outline.
- Use this exam outline and the Massachusetts Technical Education Framework to focus your preparation for the exam.

### Written Exam

- Number of Questions: 100
- Administration Time: 3 hours
- Administration Method: Remote Proctoring Online Session

### Written Exam Content Coverage

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**5%**    ***Design & 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)

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- **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

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- 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

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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.

## Performance Exam

- Administration Time: 4 hours
- Administration Method: Onsite at an approved Teacher Testing Location

### Performance Exam Content Coverage

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#### **40% Logo Development**

- With supplies provided, prepare hand-drawn thumbnails, quality compositions, and a professional final logo in color

#### **15% Layout and Design**

- Produce a professional layout for an ad campaign.

#### **15% Animation Development**

- Create professional quality animated banner.

#### **30% Web Development**

- Create a two-page website containing an animated banner, logo, photographs, and text. Must be previewed in a web browser.

### Materials Required for the Performance Exam (Candidate Must Supply)

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- Face mask (cotton face covering or respirator which fully cover the nose and mouth)

#### **Equipment that Will be Supplied**

- Windows or Macintosh computer
- Paper and Drawing Materials

#### **Software Used**

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|---|------------------------|
| • Windows or Macintosh Operating System | • Adobe Illustrator CC |
| • Adobe Design Premium CC               | • Adobe InDesign CC    |
| • Adobe Photoshop CC                    | • Adobe Animate CC     |
|   | • Adobe Dreamweaver CC |

**Note:** Candidates must notify NOCTI to indicate which platform will be used to complete the subtasks (Windows or Macintosh.) All work will be completed on the computer and will be saved on the desktop in the appropriate folders. Candidates may NOT bring their own computer, laptop, or any other external devices. No books or notes will be allowed. Cell phones are prohibited during the exam administration.

## Onsite Performance Exam Requirements

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- Candidate must practice social distancing and wear the appropriate face covering that covers the nose and mouth while at the exam site.
- Testing sites may have individual requirements based on location and the current guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

## Performance Exam Reference Materials (Reference Current Edition)

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- **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)
- **Additional Internet Resources**
  - [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)