

# Massachusetts CTE Teacher Testing Program Early Education & Care 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

<b>10%</b>	<b><i>Health and Safety</i></b>
<b>7%</b>	<b><i>Learning Environment</i></b>
<b>50%</b>	<b><i>Growth and Development/Curriculum</i></b>
<b>5%</b>	<b><i>Behavior Management</i></b>
<b>5%</b>	<b><i>Relationships with Families</i></b>
<b>6%</b>	<b><i>Assessment Techniques</i></b>
<b>17%</b>	<b><i>Professional Knowledge</i></b>

### Written Exam Reference Materials (Reference Current Edition)

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- **Working with Young Children** by Judy Herr (Goodheart-Willcox)
- **The Developing Child** by Gayle Mindes, Ann Kennedy, and Marta Lockwood (Glencoe/McGraw Hill)
- **Children, the Early Years** by Celia A. Decker (Goodheart-Willcox)
- **Developmentally Appropriate Practices in Early Childhood Programs** by Sue Bedekamp and Carol Copple (NAEYC)
- **The Creative Curriculum for Preschool** by Diane Trister Dodger, Laura J. Colker, and Cate Heroman (Teaching Strategies, Inc.)
- **102 CMR 7:00-MA Education and Care Standards for the Licensure or Approval of Group Day Care and School Age Child Care Programs**
- **Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences** (Early Childhood Advisory Council to the Massachusetts Board of Education)
- **All About Child Care and Early Education: A Comprehensive Resource for C.C. Professionals** by Marilyn Sega, Betty Bardige, Mary Jean Woika and Jesse Leinfelder, Allyn & Bacon
- [www.eec.state.ma.us](http://www.eec.state.ma.us)

### 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 (\*).

Which of the following questions encourages children to explore and investigate their world?

- a. What color is the bear?
- b. Which one is the largest?
- c. If you were a bear, where would you get food? (\*)
- d. How many bears can you count?

When choosing the appropriate materials for a toddler program, which of the following would be included?

- a. A multiple of the same toy (\*)
- b. Only one of a variety of toys
- c. Toys required for group participation
- d. Toys with small pieces

## NOCTI Performance Exam

- Administration Time: 3 hours
- NOCTI Criterion-Referenced Cut Score/Passing Score: 81.8%
- 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

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**30% Curriculum Planning**

*Participants will complete curriculum web form and small group Lesson Plan.*

**40% Small Group Teaching**

*Participants will develop an appropriate Lesson Plan, introduce the lesson with a professional appearance and demeanor, implement the Lesson Plan, and demonstrate positive interaction with a group of three to five children (ages 3 to 5).*

**30% Room Arrangement**

*Participant will arrange the room, indicate traffic patterns, and draw neat lines showing boundaries.*

### Performance Exam Requirements

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#### Candidate Supplied

Candidates must bring all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), attire/uniform, and any other safety items as is 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. It is also the testing site's responsibility to provide exam assistants to serve as patients, customers, or other roles required for the exam.

### Performance Exam Site Requirements

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