

# Massachusetts CTE Teacher Testing Program Health Assisting Content Outline

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## 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

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**15% Health and Safety**

**25% Communication Skills Related to Health Careers**

**50% Responding to Client Needs**

- Procedures for Clients Medical Needs
- Activities for Daily Living
- Elimination
- Special Procedures
- Comfort Measures
- Nutrition/Hydration
- Cognitive and Memory Impairment

**10% Growth and Development**

- Principles Across the Lifespan

## Written Exam Reference Materials (Reference Current Edition)

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- **Diversified Health Occupations** by Louise Simmers (Delmar Thomson)
- **Growth & Development Handbook: Newborn Through Adolescent** by Barbara Mandleco (Thompson)
- **Healthcare Science Technology** by Kathryn A. Booth (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill)
- **Introduction to Health Science Technology** by Louise Simmers (Thomson)
- **Medical Math for Health Professionals** by Michael Kennamer (Thomson)
- **Nursing Assistant: A Nursing Process Approach** by Barbara Hegner, Barbara Acello and Esther Caldwell (Delmar Cengage Learning)

## 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 client with bradycardia would have which of the following?

- A respiratory rate of 29
- A pulse rate of 48 (\*)
- A respiratory rate of 10
- A pulse rate of 116

A life-threatening complication of untreated hyperglycemia is:

- keto-acidosis. (\*)
- oliguria.
- dysuria.
- hematuria.

## NOCTI Performance Exam

- Administration Time: 1 hour and 10 minutes
- NOCTI Criterion-Referenced Cut Score/Passing Score: 91.1%
- 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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- 28% Hand Washing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**  
*Participant will gather equipment, maintain clean technique, demonstrate correct hand washing technique, put on cover gown, mask, and gloves, then remove gloves, gown, and mask all in the correct order, correctly wash hands, and clean work area.*
- 29% Empty a Urine Collection – Drainage Bag and Collect Urine Sample for Lab**  
*Participant will follow the correct procedures to empty the urinary collection-drainage bag for a patient. Participant will also retrieve a clean catch specimen and prepare it for a test.*
- 31% Measure Vital Signs, Height, and Weight**  
*Participant will gather equipment, identify patient and explain procedures, verbalize hand washing, accurately take pulse, respirations, blood pressure, height, and weight, clean work area, and check patient for comfort and safety.*
- 12% Transfer Patient from Bed to Wheelchair**  
*Participant will use correct body mechanics to transfer patient from bed to wheelchair, and from wheelchair to bed.*

### 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.

- Appropriate PPE for the industry
- Appropriate attire/uniform for the industry
- Watch or clock with second hand
- Candidates are permitted to use their own equipment (e.g., stethoscope)

#### 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).