

Promoting Career and College Readiness for Students
by addressing the assessment needs of the career and technical education community

WHO MUST TAKE THE ASSESSMENTS

Technical skills assessments are given to **all** students who have:
Completed a career and technical education (CTE) program **OR**
are leaving a program and have completed more than half of the program (at least 7 segments)

GENERAL UPDATES

2013-2014 TECHNICAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT COORDINATORS WEB BRIEFING

Thank you for participating in the 2013-14 Assessment Webinars/Conference Calls. The schedule for Webinars/Conference calls for 2014-2015 will be emailed to the listserv participants in early Fall.

Following are the required assessments for 2014-15. If there are any updates to these assessments, communication will be emailed.

PROGRAMS WITH REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS FOR 2014-15

- Automotive Repair Technician (47.0604)
- Medium/Heavy Truck Technician (NATEF Certified) (47.0613)
- Health Science (26.0102, 51.0000, 51.1000, 51.0707)
- Marketing (52.1999)
- Finance (52.0800)
- Collision Repair Technician (NATEF Certified) (47.0603)
- Business, Management and Administration (52.0299)
- Education and Training (13.0000)
- Law and Public Safety (43.0100)
- Maintenance and Light Repair (47.0604)

PROGRAMS WITH REQUIRED INTERIM ASSESSMENTS FOR 2014-15

· *Radio and TV Broadcasting Technology (10.0202)* · *Graphics and Printing Technology and Communications (10.0301)*

For detailed information on 2013-14 Implemented Assessments:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_2629_53970---,00.html

SURVEYS FOR NEW ASSESSMENTS

It is still not too late to complete the surveys for assessments implemented this year.

Survey links have been added to the bottom of the assessment tip sheets for teachers, proctors, and students and will be posted on the CTE Skills Assessment website for **Collision Repair Technician, Medium/Heavy Truck Technician, Marketing, Radio and TV Broadcasting Technology, and Graphics and Printing Technology and Communication.**

For the Marketing Assessment, surveys will also be added as follows:

Student Survey: added to the end of the online assessment

Teacher/Proctor Survey: added to the NOCTI Michigan web page: <http://www.nocti.org/StateCustomized-MI.cfm>

TEST ADMINISTRATION

Follow-up on Questions/Concerns from the May Assessment Conference Call

Marketing

Q: Can unused Marketing assessments be returned to NOCTI for a refund?

A: Due to the special pricing that NOCTI has offered, assessments cannot be returned for a refund.

Graphics and Printing Technology and Communications

Q: The Graphics Communication assessment focuses more on printing skills and not the skills students are learning. Will this assessment remain in place for 2014-2015?

A: The Graphics and Printing Technology and Communications Cluster Referent Group (CRG) selected this assessment because it was the only assessment that closely aligned with the standards. This assessment is an interim assessment and will continue to be administered until the CRG selects a more suitable assessment that matches the standards.

Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) – Professional Readiness Exam (PRE)

Q: The MTTC-PRE assessment schedule conflicted with days in which students were on break. Will this scheduling conflict be resolved for 2014-15?

A: Office of Career and Technical Education has successfully worked with Office of Professional Preparation Services to schedule dates that align to most Michigan High School schedules.
The dates for the PRE assessment for 2014-2015 are as follows:

October 11, 2014; January 15, 2015; April 18, 2015; July 11, 2015

Q: Will the PRE cut score remain the same for 2014-2015?

A: Yes, the cut score will remain the same.

National Health Science

Q: The Health Science Assessment had the following issues. Will these issues be resolved?

- Misspelled words and incorrect grammar. The reader had to interpret the meaning of some questions
- A universal reader is needed for students who need to have the test read to them. It is time consuming and hard to read 100 questions to each student.
- The graphics did not always appear on the screen while the assessment was being administered. If the pop-up blocker must be turned off for the graphics to appear, then instructions should be given to the users.

A: Misspelled Words and incorrect grammar

National Consortium for Health Science Education (NCHSE) has stated that each question is reviewed by a review team. The next review is scheduled for August 2014.

Want more information on technical skills assessments?

www.michigan.gov/octe or contact Valerie Felder at:
felderv@michigan.gov or (517) 335-1066

TEST ADMINISTRATION

A: Universal Reader

Precision Exams has stated that it is difficult to install a universal reader because of the medical terminology on the assessment. In addition, the cost of the assessment will rise if universal readers are installed. There is an alternative if students must have the test read to them. The questions can be de-randomized so that a large group of students can have the test read to them at the same time. In addition, if a student's individualized education plan provides an accommodation for extended time, then this also can be arranged through Precision Exams.

A: Graphics

Precision Exams has stated that complaints about graphics have occurred a small percentage of the time. A solution would be to refresh the browser. Also, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari and Chrome are preferred browsers to administer the assessment. Instructions will be posted on the Precision Exams website on how to eliminate the graphics issue. Proctors may also call Precision Exams customer service for assistance.

Please see the following web links for additional information on the NCHSE Health Science Assessment:

NCHSE: <http://www.healthscienceconsortium.org>

Precision Exams: <http://www.precisionexams.com/nchse/welcome/training.php>

OTHER INFORMATION

- ◆ Teachers who teach the content related to the assessment **should not** be administering the assessment to their students.
- ◆ None of the secondary CTE assessments currently identified in Michigan for federal reporting of CTE program effectiveness have been validated for measuring growth and should not be used as the sole element in educator evaluations at this point. Please see the following link for full policy statement: http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-2629_53970---,00.html.