Minnesota Teacher Licensure Exams (MTLE)

Presentation by Maureen Prenn
September 12, 2011
I heard...

- If I did not pass one or more sections of the Basic Skills test under Praxis I, I need to retake all three sections under MTLE.
- **False**
- You only retake the basic skills subtest you did not pass.
I passed all three Basic Skills Tests under Praxis. Do I need to redo them under the new tests?

No

Any Basic Skills tests you passed under Praxis can be used for licensure until December 31, 2015
The new Basic Skills test is more difficult.

True

Expectations are higher
Can I use my Praxis score for the Content test until December 2015?

No. Content and Pedagogy scores taken through Praxis can only be used until August 2012.
Since the Praxis tests are still offered in Minnesota, can I take them?

Praxis tests taken in Minnesota after August 31, 2010 cannot be used in Minnesota now.
Which tests are required?

• Basic skills (reading, writing, mathematics)
• Pedagogy for your grade level range
• Content

* Note that each licensure field requires a content exam
Applying for your license

- Advantages of Minnesota licensure
- Moving to other states
- Returning to teaching after a break
- Completed during end of student teaching
How are the tests different from Praxis?

- Computer-based
- Aligned to Minnesota standards
- Less expensive
- Most not offered on campus
Are all of the tests computer-based?

- World Language tests are paper-based
- Done here at MSU or paper-based test centers
MTLE Computer-Based Testing Centers

Mankato
Mankato Place
12 Civic Center Plaza
Mankato, MN 56001

Pearson Professional Centers – Bloomington
5601 Green Valley Drive
Suite 150

Pearson Professional Centers – Eagan
Washington Drive Executive Center
3459 Washington Drive
Suite 107
Pearson Professional Centers – Brooklyn Park
Triad Building
7101 Northland Circle
Suite 102

Pearson Professional Centers – Rochester
Greenview Office Building
1544 Greenview Drive SW
Suite 200

St. Cloud State University
Atwood Memorial Center
720 4th Ave. S.
Testing Center – Room A219
Subtest Difference

• If a candidate passes one subtest on the pedagogy or content exam, that candidate does not need to retake the entire exam.

• Suzy Student passes Subtest 3 (science and social studies) on the elementary content exam. When she retakes the exam, she only needs to take Subtest 1 and 2.
Registration

• When registering you make test selection and pay for the test before you select your test center and date
• Set dates according to testing window
• http://ed.mnsu.edu/advising/mtle.html
Costs

- $50 annual registration fee
- $25 each subtest for Basic Skills
- $35 each subtest for Pedagogy and content (minimum of two)
- $28 each subtest for language (two subtests)
How do we know what is needed to pass?

- Minnesota Board of Teaching has set cut scores
- Cut scores are 240 for each subtest
Home page of MTLE
http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/Home.aspx
Elementary Content page
Content Exam: Elementary Education (K-6)

- Multiple choice
- About 50 questions
- Up to an hour
- Three subtests

*Take a closer look*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Subtest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>Subtest 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Arts</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>Subtest 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Subtest 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health/Fitness and Fine Arts</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Subtest 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>Subtest 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>Subtest 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample questions

- Think aloud with example item
- *Try it out*
- Answer key
- Where did you go wrong?
Pedagogy Exam

- Multiple choice
- About 50 questions
- Up to an hour
- Two subtests

*Take a closer look*
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<tr>
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<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Subtest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Development and Learning</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Subtest 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Environment</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Subtest 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction and Assessment</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Subtest 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Roles and Responsibilities</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Subtest 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sample questions

- Think aloud with example item
- **Try it out**
- Answer key
- Where did you go wrong?
If You Have Not Passed the Basic Skills Exam

• Talk to Center for Academic Success
• Review your score report to interpret your weak areas if you are re-taking the test
• Target areas for additional study and/or tutoring
• Don’t wait until student teaching to retake Basic Skills
When to Take the Tests

- Pedagogy exam
- Subtests for Content exam for Elementary can be done at different times
- Middle Level or Pre-primary exams taken as soon as coursework for area is complete
## Basic Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subtest</th>
<th>MSU Pass Rate</th>
<th>State Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## MSU Performance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Content</th>
<th>MSU Pass Rate</th>
<th>State Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subtest 1 Reading; Communication Arts</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtest 2 Math; Fine Arts; Health Fitness</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtest 3 Science; Social Studies</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Pedagogy</td>
<td>MSU Pass Rate</td>
<td>State Pass Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtest 1 Student Development and Learning; Learning Environment</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtest 2 Instruction and Assessment; Professional Roles and Responsibilities</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Preparation, preparation, preparation!
• Give it your best performance the first time out
How to prepare

• General test preparation strategies
  – Examine topics
  – Consider resources for each topic
  – Review topics in depth
  – Use of key textbooks

• Tutorial for computer-based testing

• Specific test preparation
• **MTLE Expanded Guides**, available for Basic Skills, Pedagogy, Elementary Education and featuring sample questions with correct response rationales, annotated test frameworks, a score report interpretation guide, and other helpful study tools.

• **NES® Prep**, a series of online-based study guides. Students begin with a diagnostic test to determine areas of strength and where more study may be needed. Instructional content, divided into chapters by topic, includes multimedia elements such as videos, and offers abundant exercises to review key concepts.  
• There are also 41 full-length, online-based practice tests available for MTLE candidates. Students can take the test in real time or pause and return after additional study and review during their 30-day access period. To view a sample test, and learn more, visit http://www.starttest.com/.

• Codes for these can be purchased in Barnes and Noble bookstore on campus
Q and A