

# Minnesota Teaching Licensure Exams (MTLE): General Information and Requirements

All teacher candidates seeking Minnesota teaching licensure must complete and successfully pass two levels of professional exams. The first level of exams is the Basic Skills exams in reading, writing, and math. The second level of exams includes pedagogy and content knowledge exams for your licensure area. All exams are offered in a computer-based format. All exams are offered within a seven day window each month.

You register for all exams at the MTLE website: http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/Home.aspx

#### Some tips:

- Tests are computer-based, taken at a testing center on specific dates (see the MTLE website, and "Testing
  Dates" and "Test Center Locations" pages in this binder for more information). Registration is on a first-come,
  first-served basis.
- Test fees: There is an annual registration fee of \$50, and then a \$25 fee per subtest.
- When you register: Be sure to note The College of St. Scholastica as your college. That way, the scores will
  come directly to us as well as you.

#### **Basic Skills Exams:**

All teacher candidates must complete and pass all three subtests of the basic skills exams before applying for student teaching:

- Reading
- Writing
- Math

You may take one, two, or three of the subtests during a testing appointment.

#### Important Notes about the Basic skills tests:

- Although called "basic skills" these exams reflect the skills <u>expected of a college sophomore, so some preparation is advised</u>. The MTLE website has some practice test items and other resources to help your preparation.
- Students must pass all of the basic skills exams before they will be approved for student teaching.

# **Content Area and Pedagogy Exams:**

Prior to or during student teaching, you will need to complete the content knowledge and pedagogy exams that are related to your licensure area. Below are the exams for each licensure area.

Note: All content area and pedagogy exams must be completed before you can apply for your teaching license.

Licensure Area	Required Exams
Elementary Education (K – 6)	Pedagogy: Elementary (Grades K-6) – two subtests
	Content Area: Elementary Education (Grades K-6) – three subtests
Secondary Chemistry with 5-8 Science	Pedagogy: Secondary (Grades 5-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Chemistry (Grades 9-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Middle Level Science (Grades 5-8) – two subtests
Secondary Communication Arts & Literature	Pedagogy: Secondary (Grades 5-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Communication Arts/Literature (Grades 5-12) – two subtests

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Licensure Area	Required Exams
Secondary Life Science with 5-8 Science	Pedagogy: Secondary (Grades 5-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Life Science (Grades 9-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Middle Level Science (Grades 5-8) – two subtests
Secondary Mathematics	Pedagogy: Secondary (Grades 5-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Mathematics (Grades 5-12) – two subtests
Secondary Social Studies	Pedagogy: Secondary (Grades 5-12) – two subtests
	Content Area: Social Studies(Grades 5-12) – two subtests

The MTLE website has general preparation information including test taking strategies. The site has a computer-based testing tutorial and practice exam software which provides an opportunity to learn how to navigate through computer-based examinations. The website includes practice exams to help you become familiar with the operations of computer-based testing.

Each exam also has specific test preparation materials called "MTLE Elements" pages that are nested within the website. Each page provides the complete set of subareas across all subtests, and the test's framework. You can also find all test objectives and descriptive statements that define the content of the subtests, as well as sample questions. Click on the links below for the exam to find it's MTLE Elements page:

Basic Skills (for everyone) http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML FRAG/MN001 SG.html

#### **Elementary exams:**

- <u>Pedagogy: Elementary (Grades K-6)</u>
   <a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN012\_SG.html">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN012\_SG.html</a>
- <u>Elementary Education Content (Grades K-6)</u>
   <a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML</a> FRAG/MN024 SG.html

#### Secondary Exams:

- <u>Pedagogy: Secondary (Grades 5-12)</u>
   <a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN014\_SG.html">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN014\_SG.html</a>
- Communication Arts/Literature Content (Grades 5-12)
   http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML FRAG/MN050 SG.html
- Mathematics Content (Grades 5-12) http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML FRAG/MN054 SG.html
- <u>Social Studies Content (Grades 5-12)</u>
   <a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML</a> FRAG/MN052 SG.html
- Middle Level Science Content (Grades 5-8)
   <a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN036\_SG.html">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN036\_SG.html</a>
   NOTE: secondary Life Science & Chemistry majors must take this exam, plus the 9-12 specialty below
- Chemistry Content (Grades 9-12) http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML FRAG/MN058 SG.html

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<u>Life Science Content (Grades 9-12)</u>
 <a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN062\_TestPage.html">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN062\_TestPage.html</a>

#### The School of Education suggests several resources in preparation for the MTLE tests.

# **Basic Skills Test Study Materials**

Sociology

- Try **Khan Academy** at <a href="http://www.khanacademy.org/">http://www.khanacademy.org/</a> The Khan Academy is a not-for-profit educational organization created in 2006, by Salman Khan. With the stated mission of "providing a high quality education to anyone, anywhere". The website supplies a free online collection of more than 2,200 micro lectures via video tutorials stored on YouTube. The tutorials teach mathematics, history, finance, physics, chemistry, biology, astronomy, and economics.
- MTLE provides a practice test for all three subtests which you can purchase online for \$29.95. Additional MTLE
   Expanded Study Guides (<a href="http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN001\_PrepMaterials.html">http://www.mtle.nesinc.com/TestView.aspx?f=HTML\_FRAG/MN001\_PrepMaterials.html</a>) are available, and others will be available soon.
- Self assessment modules are available online from **Test Prep Review** (http://www.testprepreview.com/praxis\_practice.htm)
- Study guides for the ETS Praxis I version of the basic skills test are still available from the CSS Library.
- CSS Warner Writing Center is available to all students. Stop by T2121 and make an appointment.
- CBEST Free Practice Tests Basic Skills (<a href="http://www.cbest.nesinc.com/CA\_viewPT\_PDF\_opener.asp">http://www.cbest.nesinc.com/CA\_viewPT\_PDF\_opener.asp</a>)
  This site has links to free practice tests for the three California Basic Educational Skills Tests (CBEST). CBEST does align with similar competencies in MTLE's basic skills tests, however they are NOT exactly the same exams as MTLE, so these practice tests should be utilized with that in mind.
- <a href="http://www.tv411.org/">http://www.tv411.org/</a>
   TV411 is a collection of videos and web activities designed to help adults improve reading, writing, math, and science skills. It is a project of the Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC), a global nonprofit organization.
- Education Portal Academy <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/get-credit.html">http://education-portal.com/academy/get-credit.html</a>
   Education-Portal.com's free online courses are designed to prepare students to pass credit-granting exams. They have developed video courses and assessments in short segments for the independent, online learner. Some subjects offered are: biology, chemistry, literature, history, algebra, calculus.
   Here are links to videos for specific subjects:
  - o College Algebra http://education-portal.com/academy/course/algebra.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=2&hq\_v=39705afb0d
  - O College Mathematics
    http://education-portal.com/academy/course/college-mathematics-course.html?hg\_e=el&hg\_m=1476218&hg\_l=3&hg\_v=39705afb0d
  - o <u>Precalculus</u>
    <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/course/precalculus-course.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=4&hq\_v=39705afb0d">http://education-portal.com/academy/course/precalculus-course.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=4&hq\_v=39705afb0d</a>
  - o <u>Calculus</u>
    <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/course/calculus.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=5&hq\_v=39705afb0d">http://education-portal.com/academy/course/calculus.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=5&hq\_v=39705afb0d</a>
  - http://education-portal.com/academy/course/sociology-101-introduction-to-sociology.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=10&hq\_v=39705afb0d

    o English Literature
  - http://education-portal.com/academy/course/english-literature.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=12&hq\_v=39705afb0d

    American Literature
  - http://education-portal.com/academy/course/american-literature-course.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=13&hq\_v=39705afb0d

    College Composition/Writing
    http://education-portal.com/academy/course/college-composition-writing-course.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=14&hq\_v=39705afb0d
  - o Western Civilization History I
    http://education-portal.com/academy/course/western-civilization-ancient-near-east-to-1648.html?hg e=el&hg m=1476218&hg l=16&hg v=39705afb0d
  - o U.S. History I http://education-portal.com/academy/course/western-civilization-ancient-near-east-to-1648.html?hg e=el&hg m=1476218&hg l=16&hg v=39705afb0d
  - o <u>Macroeconomics</u>
    <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/course/macroeconomics-course.html?hg">http://education-portal.com/academy/course/macroeconomics-course.html?hg</a> e=el&hg m=1476218&hg l=20&hg v=39705afb0d
  - o <u>Biology</u>
    <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/course/introduction-to-biology.html?hg\_e=el&hg\_m=1476218&hg\_l=24&hg\_v=39705afb0d">http://education-portal.com/academy/course/introduction-to-biology.html?hg\_e=el&hg\_m=1476218&hg\_l=24&hg\_v=39705afb0d</a>
  - o <u>Genetics</u>
    <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/course/basic-genetics-course.html?hq">http://education-portal.com/academy/course/basic-genetics-course.html?hq</a> e=el&hq m=1476218&hq l=25&hq v=39705afb0d
  - o Anatomy & Physiology
    http://education-portal.com/academy/course/anatomy-physiology-course.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=26&hq\_v=39705afb0d
  - o <u>Chemistry</u>
    <a href="http://education-portal.com/academy/course/general-chemistry-course.html?hg">http://education-portal.com/academy/course/general-chemistry-course.html?hg</a> e=el&hg m=1476218&hg l=27&hg v=39705afb0d
  - o Natural Sciences (varied: geology, biochemistry, genetics, plant biology, ecology, etc.) http://education-portal.com/academy/course/natural-sciences-course.html?hq\_e=el&hq\_m=1476218&hq\_l=28&hq\_v=39705afb0d

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#### MathCentre: An Algebra Refresher

http://www.mathcentre.ac.uk/resources/exercisebooks/mathcentre/final1001-ltsn-ukmlsc.pdf

From the UK, the material in this refresher booklet has been designed to enable students to prepare for university-level mathematics. It is a comprehensive workbook review with answers to each activity in the back of the booklet.

#### Math.com

http://www.math.com/

This website provides some basics of Mathematics, including: math functions, algebra, geometry, statistics, trigonometry, and calculus

# MIT's OpenCourseWare

http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/

MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) is a web-based publication of MIT course content, available free for public use. Courses cover a variety of subject matter, including: biology, earth science, physics, mathematics (statistics, algebra, geometry, calculus), anthropology, chemistry, economics, history, linguistics, political science, and writing.

# Open Culture

http://www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses

Open Culture is a compilation of academic media which can be used for personal and professional development. It gives students access to free online courses/tutorials by instructors from universities such as Stanford, Cambridge, Penn, Yale, Berkeley and Oxford (among others), and the subjects include: geography, history, biology, literature, algebra, and physics.

Note: Most courses are offered in audio or video format through iTunes.

## **Content and Pedagogy Study Materials**

- MTLE provides content and sample questions for both content and pedagogy test. See each test title to review preparation materials.
- The CSS library provides ETS Praxis II version study guides. Study guides are on reserve.
- Student guides listed below are on reserve at the CSS library.

#### On Reserve at the CSS library

- Study guides for the ETS Praxis I version of the basic skills test are still available from the CSS Library.
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota communication arts/literature (5-12): Practice test 1. XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota communication arts/literature (5-12): Practice test 2. XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S.A. (2011). MTLE Minnesota communication arts/literature (5-12): teacher certification test prep study guide. XAMOnline, Inc.
- Wynne, S. (2011) MTLE Minnesota elementary education (K-6). XAMonline, Inc,
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota elementary education (K-6): Practice test 1. XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota elementary education (K-6): Practice test 2. XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota high school mathematics (5-12). XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota middle level science (5-8). XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S. (2011). MTLE Minnesota pedagogy elementary (K-6). XAMonline, Inc.
- Wynne, S.A. (2011). MTLE Minnesota pedagogy: Elementary (K-6) teacher certification test prep study guide. XAMOnline, Inc.

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• Wynne, Sharon. (2011). MTLE Minnesota world language and culture: Spanish (K12). XAMonline, Inc.