



Briefing Note

Math Proficiency Test – Consequential Amendments

Issue

As a result of an Ontario Court of Appeal decision released on November 28, 2023, the Government of Ontario will reinstate the Math Proficiency Test (the “MPT”) as a requirement for certification with the Ontario College of Teachers. However, since the introduction of the MPT through O. Reg. 271/19 (the “MPT Regulation”) in 2019, many provisions of the regulation are now out-of-date and require changes.

As a result of these impending changes to the MPT Regulation, the College requires Council authorization to begin working with Ministry of Education staff to determine required consequential amendments to O. Reg. 176/10 (the “Teachers’ Qualifications Regulation”).

Background

When legislated in 2019, the MPT was announced by the Minister of Education as a critical component of the government’s math strategy, with the ultimate goal of strengthening student achievement in math. Hence, in August 2019, the *Ontario College of Teachers Act* (the “Act”) was amended to introduce the MPT as a certification requirement (with a March 2020 effective date) and a supporting MPT Regulation was introduced. This MPT Regulation included operational details required to launch the MPT, including how the test was to be administered, who was required to pass the test, and conditions for Ontario

applicants to pass the MPT by the end of 2021.

The original MPT Regulation was deemed unconstitutional by the Ontario Divisional Court in December 2021, and the Divisional Court’s decision was subsequently set aside by the Ontario Court of Appeal in November 2023. Due to the passage of time because of these legal processes, the MPT Regulation in its current state is inoperable because it includes a timeline that is now out-of-date.

The Ministry of Education has announced a proposal to amend the MPT regulation to introduce new timelines and operational details. This proposal is currently under development and the Ministry has invited feedback from stakeholders and the public. The proposal calls for the MPT to be relaunched at the beginning of the 2025 calendar year and for the Education Quality and Accountability Office (the “EQAO”) to develop the MPT and also serve as test administrator.

The Ministry is consulting with the College, EQAO and other stakeholders to establish the new requirements and timelines for the MPT.

Recommendation

In light of the Ministry of Education’s impending reintroduction of the MPT, it is requested that Council approve the following motion:

That Council write to the Minister of Education to request that Ministry of Education staff work with College staff to determine how the reintroduction of the MPT impacts applicants, and develop consequential amendments to the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation for Council consideration.

Next Steps

If Council approves the proposed motion, College staff will work with staff at the Ministry of Education to develop amendments to the Teachers' Qualifications Regulation that will be brought forward to a future Council meeting for consideration.

Prepared by:

Policy and Governance Unit

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