

Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test

Members are advised not to participate in the development, validation, implementation, administration, or marking of the Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test.

The Ontario government's teacher testing program includes the Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test, the entry to the profession test that Faculty of Education graduates will be required to write.

The test was piloted in three Faculties of Education in the fall. The first administration of the test will be in May 2002. After that initial testing, faculty graduates will be required to pay a fee to take the test.

The Ministry may request that district school boards solicit teacher volunteers who are in their first years of teaching to validate the content of the Ontario Teacher Qualifying Test. The validation may include completion of a survey.

Applicants to Faculties of Education in Ontario undergo a rigorous screening and selection process. In addition, the faculties have undergone an extensive accreditation process by the Ontario College of Teachers. This process ensures that faculty graduates will be qualified to teach in Ontario.

In the ETFO position paper, *Ensuring High Professional Standards in Ontario Education: A Response to the Teacher Testing Proposal*, ETFO opposes written competency tests for Ontario teachers for a number of valid reasons. The proposed entry to the profession tests will simply measure the ability to take tests, not necessarily the skills it takes to be a good teacher.

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