

Roane State

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Information Regarding the Required MAPP TEST

Dear Graduating Sophomore:

Let me be the first to congratulate you on your progress toward the associate's degree. You're in the "home stretch" to graduation, with only a few short weeks of coursework and examinations remaining before you complete this leg of your educational journey. If you are planning to graduate with a degree in an A.A., A.S., or A.A.S. program, you have one **required** "final" examination in common with every other community college graduate across the state. This exam is a standardized test of your general education knowledge and skills. Roane State Community College administers the Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress (MAPP) exam for this purpose. We use the results of this test to study the effectiveness of the overall curriculum and to identify areas of instruction that may need improvement.

Attached is a schedule that will allow you to register for the exam time and campus location that is most convenient for you OR you can "walk-in" during the time frame listed and test on a first come, first serve basis.

You will need to plan for approximately one hour – 10 minutes to complete the answer sheet and 40 minutes to complete the exam, which consists of 36 multiple-choice questions. The MAPP focuses on the academic skills developed through the general education courses you have taken. It does this by testing college-level reading, writing, and critical thinking within the context of reading passages in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. There are also some mathematics questions on the exam. (You may use a four-function, scientific, or non-graphing calculator on the mathematics questions.)

I hope that you will give your very best effort to this test which is used by the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission as a measure of Roane State's institutional reputation and performance. By doing well on the exam, you will enhance the value of your degree with other colleges and universities and with employers in the community. Another very real benefit of your good performance on this exam is extra funding that the college qualifies for to help us continually upgrade our programs and services to students.

While there is no way to cram for this test, using common sense test-taking strategies will definitely reduce stress and can also improve your test score.

- Come to the test well rested. Get a good night's sleep before the exam.
- Make sure you're organized. Be sure you know where to go and what to bring with you.
- Don't get bogged down by a tough question. Mark that question and return to it after you finish the rest of the section or the entire test.
- Read carefully! This test requires you to read closely and critically. However, you may find it helpful to scan the questions related to each reading paragraph before you read the passage for details.

Over the past several years, Roane State graduates have scored above the national mean score, so I am confident that you have the skills necessary to do well. Again, congratulations on your achievement so far. I look forward to presenting you with your diploma!

Sincerely,



Chris Whaley, J.D.



Vice President for Student Learning