Study Plan

10 min. Introduction

Part 1: What is “test preparation?”

5 min.

Part 2: Why do educators feel that test-preparation activities are necessary and/or important?

10-15 min.

Part 3: Why should educators care about the “appropriateness” of test preparation?

5-10 min.

Part 4: How can the appropriateness of a test-preparation activity be determined?

- Criterion #1: Academic ethics
- Criterion #2: Score meaning & use
- Criterion #3: Educational value gained/lost

30-40 min.

Scenario Activity: An opportunity to apply what you have learned regarding the evaluation of the appropriateness of different types of test-preparation activities

- Using items from the ITBS/ITED (Scenarios 1-3)
- Teaching test-taking skills (Scenarios 4-6)
- Using practice tests (Scenario 7)
- Reviewing content/skill areas (Scenario 8-9)

10 min. per scenario

Part 5: What should educators do when they feel pressured to use inappropriate practices or they are aware of such practices being conducted in their school?

10-15 min.

Part 6: What can/should be done to increase the likelihood that scores are a true representation of what students know and are able to do in the areas covered by the tests?

15-20 min.

20-30 min. Closing

Closing Activity

Total amount of time required: About 2 hours, without completing the scenarios