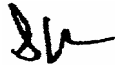


**MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION - BONNIE McCABE HALL**

December 9, 2002

MEMORANDUM

TO: Advisement Directors, Selected Advisement Distribution, School Directors
Chairpersons, Testing Directors, Registrars, Academic Deans, Student Deans

FROM: Silvio Rodriguez 

SUBJECT: **Changes to the Placement Criteria Document for 2002-2003
Effective January 7, 2003**

Through this memorandum, I would like to alert you to changes that affect our Placement Criteria Document for 2002-2003. The changes listed below are part of Florida's K-20 Education Code and they are effective January 7, 2003. Odyssey will be updated to reflect most of these changes on January 7, 2003 and Applications Development should complete the additional required programming that is needed in the near future. Since we are already in the review process for the 2003-2004 Placement Criteria Document you should use this memorandum as needed through out the remainder of this academic year.

For your information, the Placement Criteria Document for 2002-2003 is available for your usage on the Institutional Research and Testing website at <http://www.mdc.edu/ir>. In the section titled Placement Testing Information click on Placement Criteria, then click on 2002-2003 Placement Criteria Document. Please share this information and the selected "Points to Remember" included below with your faculty and staff.

1. Currently, all degree-seeking students who present a "college ready" high school diploma from a Florida public school are exempt from basic skills testing for two years following award of diploma. Please note that these students need to be referred to take the College-Level Mathematics (CLM) subtest of the CPT for placement into college-level mathematics courses (page 3). The Statute that cited "college-ready" high school diplomas was repealed and Florida's K-20 Education Code does not include any language regarding the issuing of "college ready" high school diplomas. The following change is effective January 7, 2003:

DEGREE SEEKING STUDENTS - EXEMPTED FROM CPT TESTING: Students who present a "college ready" high school diploma (issued in 2001 or 2002) from a Florida public school are exempt from basic skills testing for two years following award of diploma.

2. Currently, all first-time-in program students who designate themselves as certificate-seeking in a vocational program of more than 180 hours are required to be tested. Such students must complete an entry-level examination within the first six weeks of admission into the program (page 5). In addition, students who have earned an Associate degree or higher from an accredited United States or foreign institution where the official language of instruction is English are exempted from testing except in specific situations such as certain programs sponsored by external agencies (page 5). The new Statute cites that the technical program must have 450 hours or more for testing to be required and new exemptions from the testing requirement. The following changes are effective January 7, 2003:

VOCATIONAL CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS - REQUIRED TO TEST:

All first-time-in-program students who designate themselves as certificate-seeking in a vocational program of 450 hours or more. Please note that the State no longer requires testing in the following programs:

- Community Service Officer/Police Service Aide – 57014 (310 hours)
- Crossover from Correctional Officer to Law Enforcement Officer – 57016 (306 hours)
- Phlebotomy – 53003 (255 hours)
- Public Safety Telecommunications – 57015 (238 hours)

EXEMPTED FROM TABE TESTING:

1. Students who have earned an Associate degree (e.g. Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, etc.) or higher from an accredited United States or Foreign institution where the official language of instruction is English are exempted from testing except in specific situations such as certain programs sponsored by external funding agencies. Official documentation is required.
2. Students who have earned a license from an approved National, State, or Industry agency where the official examination was administered in English are exempt from testing except in specific situations such as certain programs sponsored by external funding agencies. The license has to be specific to the career and must be necessary in order to work. Official license and documentation is required.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. ALL first-time-in-college students who designate themselves as DEGREE-SEEKING are required to test and may not register for any credit courses until they have scores on file. This includes degree-seeking students who have less than 12 credits and are not registering for English and/or mathematics. Please note that ACT and SAT scores must be at the passing level in order to be considered on file.
2. ALL degree-seeking students who took a placement examination more than two years ago and whose scores were used for placement, but who have not yet passed the course(s) into which they were placed or higher-level course(s) in the same subject matter, are required to test. Please note that this includes students whose next college preparatory course is at the highest level, but their scores are more than two years old.
3. Students presenting ACT mathematics scores of 21 or higher, or SAT-1 mathematics scores of 500 or higher are not required to take the CLM subtest of the CPT for placement into college-level mathematics courses (page 2). These students will be placed into MAC 1105 or may be referred to a Mathematics Department advisor for placement into other advanced mathematics courses.
4. Students presenting passing ACT or SAT-1 mathematics scores, but below the aforementioned scores, will continue to be placed into MAT 1033. These students may be referred to take the CLM, which will determine placement into mathematics courses higher than MAT 1033. Only the Mathematics Department advisors should override this requirement.
5. Students who place into college preparatory reading are required to complete their College Preparatory reading course(s) before enrolling in ENC 1101. Please note that college preparatory students who receive an "A" or a "B" in ENC 1101 or a "C or higher" in ENC 1101 and ENC 1102 have satisfied the college preparatory reading requirement. This status is reflected on the Degree Audit and the Maintain Student Placement Demographics (SR TS SP SD) screen as follows: Placement Area for Reading "Met through credit course."

Finally, please ensure that all testing information communicated to students from your respective areas reflect the changes that are effective January 7, 2003. For additional Placement Testing Information please visit the Institutional Research and Testing website at <http://www.mdc.edu/ir> or contact your campus Testing Director. **In addition, if your area maintains a website, please include appropriate links for testing information from your site to the college-wide testing website.** If you have any questions about the Placement Criteria please contact me at 7-7492 or e-mail at silvio.rodriquez@mdc.edu.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

SR/rmz

c: Karen Hays
Cathy Morris
CASSC Chair