

MIAMI DADE COLLEGE PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2007-2008

The State of Florida requires entry-level testing for students seeking Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees. Students whose native language is not English may be required to take another test to measure their English proficiency before entry-level testing is permitted. The State also requires institutions offering Postsecondary Career Certificate (VCC) and Adult Education programs to test students pursuing these programs. Miami Dade College (MDC) may accept official test scores from certified academic institutions and approved regional workforce boards. Parameters for testing will be established between coordinating agencies. This year's Placement Criteria Document is divided into five sections: I. Placement Criteria for Degree and College Credit Certificate Programs; II. Criteria for Degree and College Credit Certificate Seeking-Students with Limited English Proficiency; III. Procedures for Testing and Placement Criteria for Postsecondary Career Certificate Education (VCC) Programs; IV. Procedures for Testing and Placement Criteria for Adult General Education Programs; and V. Procedures for Testing and Placement Criteria for Dual Enrollment Students.

I. PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR DEGREE AND COLLEGE CREDIT CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

The State of Florida requires each public college and university to have scores on one of the following test batteries for degree-seeking students prior to registration: Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT), American College Testing (ACT), or the Florida College Entry-Level Placement Test. The Florida College Entry-Level Placement Test consists of the Computerized Placement Test (CPT) and a paper-and-pencil version of the CPT. The term CPT will be used in this document to designate both forms of this test. Note: Beginning with the 2007-1 Fall Term, the State of Florida will allow MDC to use FCAT scores to exempt students from placement testing.

The State sets minimum scores below which college preparatory work is required in reading, writing, and algebra. MDC requires additional testing in mathematics depending on the score received on the algebra section of the CPT. Placement **scores are valid for two years**. FCAT scores are valid for two years after high school graduation. A registration hold is in place to prevent student registration until scores are presented. **Further assessment may be conducted in courses**. Students may retest once on each subtest of the CPT for initial placement. Retesting in any subtest area must occur prior to enrollment in that area or by the 100% refund date.

REQUIRED TO TEST:

1. All degree-seeking first-time-in-college students and all college credit certificate-seeking students in programs with more than 12 credits. Such students may not register for any credit course at MDC until they have a set of complete scores on file. This includes students who hold only a career certificate (VCC).
2. All students who register for any English, or mathematics course, or any course that requires College-level Reading and/or Writing placement.
3. All students who register beyond 12 cumulative credits.
4. All students seeking dual enrollment. Note: Refer to page 8, Section V for placement guidelines.
5. All students who took a placement examination more than **two** years ago, and whose scores have not been used for placement decisions.
6. All students who took a placement examination more than two years ago, whose scores were used for placement, but who have not yet passed a course in the corresponding subject area. Note: Students who placed into the lowest levels (REA 0001, ENC 0002, or MAT 0002) need not retest in the corresponding subject area.

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EXEMPTED FROM TESTING:

1. Students who have earned an associate degree or higher from an institution recognized by MDC. Official documentation is required.
2. Students who have earned the required course grade based upon the chart below. Any course grade presented, which is below that needed for exemption, will require the student to be tested on the appropriate CPT subtest(s). Note: Exemption for courses not on the chart must be approved by the appropriate department chairperson. Official documentation is required.

Skill Area	Course	Grade
Writing	ENC 0021	A, B, C, S
	Any ENC 1000 or 2000 Level	A, B, C, S
	Any LIT 2000 Level	A, B, C, S
	SPC 1026	A, B, C, S
Reading	REA 0003*	A, B, C, S
	REA 1105 or REA 1125	A, B, C, S
	ENC 1101	A, B
	ENC 1102	A, B, C, S
Mathematics	MAT 0020 or 0024	A, B, C, S
	MAT 1033**	A, B, C, S
	QMB 2100	A, B, C, S
	Any (MAC, MAD, MAP, MAS, MGF, STA)	A, B, C, S
*Course number change from REA 0010 effective June 6, 2003.		
**MAT 1033 is a bridge course and does not count toward graduation.		

3. Students who attend another college or university, provide appropriate documentation, and are enrolling for courses to transfer to their primary institution (and who are not seeking a degree at MDC) are exempt from basic skills testing.
4. Students who present FCAT, SAT, or ACT scores meeting State requirements (see table below). If multiple test results are on record, the highest subtest scores are used. Any score presented, which is below that needed for exemption, will require the student to be tested on the appropriate CPT subtest(s). For students presenting passing mathematics scores in specific score ranges* (ACT Mathematics = 19-20 and SAT Mathematics = 440-490), the College-Level Mathematics subtest of the CPT may be used to determine placement into advanced mathematics courses (e.g., MAC 1105, MGF 1106, MGF 1107, etc.).

Skill Area	Recommended Placement	FCAT	ACT ^o	SAT ^o
		Subtest Score	Subtest Score	Subtest Score
Reading	EXEMPT	Reading ≥ 355 or Level 4	Reading ≥ 18	Critical Reading ^o ≥ 440
Writing [^]	ENC 1101	Reading ≥ 355 or Level 4	English ≥ 17	Critical Reading ^o ≥ 440
Mathematics*	MAT 1033	N/A	19 - 20	440 - 490
	MAC 1105, MGF 1106, or MGF 1107	Math ≥ 375 or Level 5	≥ 21	≥ 500

^oPrior to March 2005, the Critical Reading section was known as the Verbal section. Scores from these two sections are comparable. New SAT writing, essay, and grammar usage scores are not used. New ACT English-essay combined and essay scores are not used.

*If recommended placement is MAT 1033, refer to CPT College-Level Mathematics subtest. MAT 1033 is a bridge course and does not count toward graduation. If recommended placement is MAC 1105, MGF 1106, or MGF1107 refer to Mathematics Department advisor for placement into other advanced mathematics courses.

[^]Faculty may recommend supplemental services based on a required writing sample.

Notes:

Students who have already registered in a mathematics course (and are past the 100% refund deadline) are not eligible to take the College-Level Mathematics subtest without permission from the chairperson of the Mathematics Department.

If combined SAT score is 1200 or more in Critical Reading and Mathematics, or composite ACT score is 26 or more, student may be eligible for Honors College.

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2007-2008 COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE

Reading*		Writing*	
20 - 50	REA 0001 ⁽¹⁾	20 - 50	ENC 0002
51 - 70	REA 0002	51 - 70	ENC 0020
71 - 82	REA 0003 ⁽²⁾	71 - 82	ENC 0021
83 - 120	EXEMPT	83 - 120	ENC 1101 [▲]

¹Students scoring at this level must see an advisor prior to registering.

²Course number change from REA 0010 effective June 6, 2003.

*Students who have not satisfied college preparatory reading requirements may not enroll in college-level English even if their writing test score is 83 or higher. Students who have not satisfied college preparatory reading and writing requirements may not enroll in any Gordon Rule course, except mathematics. Students may select from a list of courses maintained by the Academic Advisement office and approved by the pertinent academic department, for co-enrollment with college prep courses.

[▲]Faculty may recommend supplemental services based on a required writing sample.

Mathematics

Placement may be based on a combination of tests. Arithmetic scores are required for students scoring below the noted score on the Algebra subtest.

<u>Algebra Score</u>	<u>Arithmetic Score</u>	<u>College-Level Mathematics Score</u>	<u>Required Placement</u>
20 – 71	20 - 29	Not Required	MAT 0002
20 – 71	30 - 64	Not Required	MAT 0020
20 – 71	65 - 120	Not Required	MAT 0024
			<u>Recommended Placement</u>
72 – 86	Not Required	Not Required ⁽¹⁾	MAT 1033 ⁽²⁾
87 – 120 ⁽³⁾	Not Required	20 – 39	MAT 1033 ⁽²⁾
87 – 120	Not Required	40 – 62	MAC 1105, or MGF 1106, or MGF 1107
87 – 120	Not Required	63 – 120	Refer to Mathematics Department

¹College-Level Mathematics subtest available upon request. Students who have already registered in a mathematics course (and are past the 100% refund deadline) are not eligible to take the College-Level Mathematics subtest without permission from the chairperson of the Mathematics Department.

²MAT 1033 is a bridge course and does not count toward graduation.

³An algebra score in this range without a college-level mathematics subtest score of 40 or higher places a student in MAT 1033.

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE NOTES:

Further assessment may be conducted in courses.

If scores on one or more of the subtests require college preparatory placement, students must enroll in at least one college preparatory course during their first term.

Students placing into college preparatory course work in one skill area are required to enroll concurrently in SLS 1505; students placing in two or more skill areas are required to enroll concurrently in SLS 1510 (formerly SLS 1535).

If CPT scores are college-level in all skill areas, students may be eligible for Honors College.

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II. CRITERIA FOR DEGREE AND COLLEGE CREDIT CERTIFICATE-SEEKING STUDENTS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Students without sufficient English proficiency to take the CPT are required to take an MDC approved English proficiency placement test (EPT or ACT-ESL) and be placed in the designated English as a Second Language (English for Academic Purposes (EAP)) course. This includes students with foreign degrees that were earned from an accredited institution where the official language of instruction is not English. CPT testing is required following EPT or ACT-ESL testing and/or completion of EAP courses. The table below indicates the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores used to exempt students from English proficiency placement testing.

<i>TOEFL Exam</i>	<i>Total Score</i>
Paper-and-pencil	550 or higher
Computer-based	213 or higher
Internet-based*	79 or higher
*Effective 9/24/2005 Note: Institutional TOEFL scores are not used for exemption purposes.	

REQUIRED TO TAKE AN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLACEMENT TEST:

1. All students who graduated from a non-English speaking high school.
2. All students who took ESOL during their eleventh or twelfth grade at any English speaking high school.
3. All students who earned a GED in Spanish.
4. All students who took an MDC approved English proficiency placement test more than one year ago and whose scores were not used for placement decisions.
5. Students transitioning from EDU 070, EDU 058, or EDU 064 to degree or college credit certificate programs are required to take an MDC approved English proficiency placement test in order to determine eligibility.

The following placement scores are in use for EPT and ACT-ESL (page 5):

<i>Course Placement Guide – EPT</i>	
EPT Raw Score	EAP Course Placement
0 – 30	Level 1
31 – 44	Level 2
45 – 58	Level 3
59 – 72	Level 4
73 – 86	Level 5
87 – 95	Level 6
96 – 100	Exempt from EAP
Campus department may recommend an adjustment to initial placement based on a writing sample and/or oral interview. Further testing may be done in classrooms.	

<i>Course Placement Guide – EAP Writing</i>	
EAP Writing Sample Score	EAP Course Placement
0.1	Pre-Level 1
1	Level 1 – EAP 1141
2	Level 2 – EAP 1241
3	Level 3 – EAP 1341
4	Level 4 – EAP 1441
5	Level 5 – EAP 1540
6	Level 6 – EAP 1640
7	Exempt from EAP

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<i>Course Placement Guide – ACT - ESL</i>							
<i>Composite</i>		<i>Grammar Subtest</i>		<i>Reading Subtest</i>		<i>Listening Subtest</i>	
25–45	Level 1						
46–58	Level 2						
59–69	Level 3						
70–78	Level 4	70-80	Level 4	79-86	Level 4	72-82	Level 4
79–92 use subtest scores		81-88	Level 5	87-92	Level 5	83-91	Level 5
93–99 Exempt if writing sample passes		89-97	Level 6	93-97	Level 6	92-97	Level 6
		98-99	See Chair	98-99	See Chair	98-99	See Chair
Campus department may recommend an adjustment to initial placement based on a writing sample and/or oral interview. Further testing may be done in classrooms.							

III. PROCEDURES FOR TESTING AND PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR POSTSECONDARY CAREER CERTIFICATE EDUCATION (VCC) PROGRAMS

Depending on the career certificate program, MDC administers the TABE Complete Battery or Survey, Level A, Forms 9 and 10. Level D may be used if the completion level of the program is at the 9th grade level or less. Completion of a prescribed remediation program is suggested prior to retesting with a minimum 30-day period between retests.

Minimum basic skills levels as grade equivalents in mathematics, language, and reading are defined in each career certificate program description adopted under Rule 6A-6.0571, and published annually by the Commissioner of Education in the document entitled, "Career Education Program Courses Standards." Refer to this document for minimum required basic skills grade levels to earn a certificate by program.

Agencies sponsoring career certificate (VCC) seeking students may set higher requirements and exemptions for testing.

Students without sufficient English proficiency are referred to the Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. Refer to Section IV-C (page 7).

REQUIRED TO TEST:

1. All first-time-in-program students who designate themselves as certificate-seeking in a career education (VCC) program of 450 hours or more. Such students must complete an entry-level examination within the first six weeks of admission into the program.
2. All students whose TABE (or other approved examination) scores are more than two years old and have not been used for placement.
3. All students whose TABE (or other approved examination) scores are more than two years old and who have had a break in their enrollment of more than one year.

EXEMPTED FROM TESTING:

1. Students who have earned an associate degree or higher from an institution recognized by MDC. (Except in specific situations such as certain programs sponsored by external funding agencies.) Official documentation is required.
2. Students who present FCAT, SAT, ACT, or CPT scores which exempt them from college preparatory placement as outlined in Section I, Exemptions From Testing, Item #4 are exempt from testing for career certificate (VCC) programs. The student must have passing scores in all three subject areas.

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3. Students who have completed the College-Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) requirement pursuant to Section 1008.29 F.S. are exempt from testing for career certificate (VCC) programs.
4. Students who present official scores on any of the state-approved examinations (including the CPT), which demonstrate the skill level required by the specific program. The scores must have been obtained within the past two years.
5. Students seeking entrance into the MDC School of Criminal Justice Corrections and Law Enforcement programs pursuant to Section 943.17(6) F.S. are exempt from entry-level basic skills testing. This exemption does not apply to the Florida Basic Abilities Test (F-BAT) requirement for entry into basic recruit training programs.

EXEMPTED FROM EXIT TESTING ONLY:

Students who have earned a license from an approved national, state, or industry agency are exempt from the TABE exit testing requirement. The license has to be specific to the career and must be necessary in order to work in that field. Official license and documentation are required. (Initial testing is required.)

IV. PROCEDURES FOR TESTING AND PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR ADULT GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

MDC administers the TABE Survey, Forms 9 and 10 with locator. The TABE retesting guidelines in Section III are also followed for Adult Basic Education (ABE) and General Education Development (GED) programs.

Students without sufficient English proficiency are referred to the Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. Refer to Section IV-C (page 7).

A. Placement Guide for Adult Basic Education (ABE):

The following placement scores are required for placement in the ABE programs:

<i>ABE and PRE-GED Placement Guide</i>	
TABE Grade Equivalent *	Required Placement
<i>Reading</i>	
6.0 – 8.9	EDU 090, and EDU 063 [^] , and EDU 089 [^]
<i>Language</i>	
5.0 – 5.9	EDU 083
6.0 – 8.9	EDU 080
<i>Math</i>	
4.0 – 5.9	EDU 073
6.0 – 8.9	EDU 076

*Students whose TABE scores are below the minimum required levels are referred to other adult basic education programs or to other remediation programs offered by MDC. Information about these options will be provided to the student during the placement interview.

[^]TABE Reading score is used for placement into EDU 063 – Pre-GED Social Studies and EDU 089 – Pre-GED Science.

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B. Placement Guide for General Education Development (GED) Preparatory Courses:

GED students should obtain a minimum 9.0 grade level equivalent on the TABE for each subject area in order to gain the most benefit from the GED preparatory courses. If a student scores a 9.0 grade equivalent or higher in reading and less than 9.0 in mathematics and/or language, the student can be enrolled in both GED and ABE programs of study.

Students are registered in EDU 075 – GED Preparatory – Comprehensive (Literacy Completion Point A-E) if they lack a State of Florida recognized high school diploma and meet one of the following criteria:

1. Have never taken the GED test.
2. Have taken the GED test, but have not passed any of the subtests.
3. Passed all of the subtests of the GED test without obtaining an overall passing score of 2250.

A student who has taken the GED test and was below the minimum required score on at least one, but not all of the subtests, is enrolled in one or more of the following courses:

GED Prep Courses Placement Guide		
EDU 085	GED Preparatory – Language/Writing	LCP - A
EDU 078	GED Preparatory – Social Studies	LCP - B
EDU 079	GED Preparatory – Science	LCP - C
EDU 095	GED Preparatory – Literature/Reading	LCP - D
EDU 077	GED Preparatory – Mathematics	LCP - E

LCP = Literacy Completion Point

C. PLACEMENT GUIDE FOR ADULT ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) AND ENGLISH LITERACY FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ELCATE)

MDC administers the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) – Life Skills (reading forms 27, 28, 33, and 34 and listening forms 53 and 54) for initial placement. The writing sample is used to determine literacy in the student's native language. Students are placed in ESOL or ELCATE courses based on the lower of the Reading and Listening scores. An appropriate form of the CASAS is used for post-testing students transitioning to their next level of courses and for completion of Low Advanced ESL (EDU 058), High Advanced ESL (EDU 064), or Advanced ELCATE (EDU 070). Students transitioning from EDU 058, EDU 064, or EDU 070 to career certificate (VCC) programs are tested on the TABE following the testing guidelines in Section III in order to determine program eligibility. Students who enrolled in ESOL/ELCATE courses must follow the approved post-testing procedures.

Students who are not literate in their native language will be administered a Native Language Literacy Screening Device to determine their initial placement level.

Eligible students who do not meet the following minimum placement criteria will be referred to other programs offered by the College (Refugee/Entrant Vocational Education Services Training (REVEST), non-credit Intensive English, etc.) or to programs offered by Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

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ELCATE Placement Guide	
CASAS Score	Course Placement Level
201 – 210	EDU 068 – ELCATE Beginning
211 – 220	EDU 069 – ELCATE Intermediate
221 – 235	EDU 070 – ELCATE Advanced

*Students must be literate in their native language.

ESOL Placement Guide	
CASAS Score	Course Placement Level
<181*	EDU 057 – Foundations
181 – 190	EDU 059 – Low Beginning ESL
191 – 200	EDU 060 – High Beginning ESL
201 – 210	EDU 061 – Low Intermediate ESL
211 – 220	EDU 062 – High Intermediate ESL
221 – 235	EDU 058 – Low Advanced ESL
236+	EDU 064** – High Advanced ESL

*Students must be literate in their native language.

**New optional course effective 2005-3.

V. PROCEDURES FOR TESTING AND PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT

Florida Statute, Section 1007.271 describes the dual enrollment program as the matriculation of an eligible secondary student or home education student in post secondary courses that can be applied toward a career and technical certificate, or an associate or baccalaureate degree. The credits that students earn must be used toward both high school graduation and be acceptable toward the technical certificate, associate, or baccalaureate degree.

Dual enrollment students must pass the appropriate sections of the FCAT, CPT, ACT, or SAT, to enroll in college credit courses. Students in an approved technical preparatory program who plan on enrolling in career certificate (VCC) courses must pass the TABE and meet the minimum basic skills grade levels in mathematics, language, and reading as defined by the career/technical program.

REQUIRED FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT COLLEGE CREDIT STUDENTS:

1. Students must pass the English and reading sections of the CPT, ACT, or SAT prior to registering for courses not related to mathematics, performing arts, and visual arts.
2. Students must pass the reading and college-level mathematics section of the CPT, or meet MDC's required FCAT, ACT, or SAT score prior to registering for MAC 1105 or higher, or any course that requires mathematics as a pre-requisite.
3. Students must pass the reading and elementary algebra section of the CPT, or pass the required reading and mathematics section of the FCAT, ACT or SAT prior to registering for accounting courses.
4. Students must pass **all** sections of the FCAT, CPT, ACT, or SAT for science (biology, chemistry, physics, earth science) and engineering courses.

CASSC Research and Testing Committee
Effective June 12, 2007