

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 and Technical Education and Adult Education programs to test students pursuing these programs. Miami Dade College (MDC) may accept official test scores from approved academic institutions and approved regional workforce boards. Parameters for accepting these scores 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 and Technical Education Programs; IV. Procedures for Testing and Placement Criteria for Adult General Education Programs; and V. Procedures for Testing and Placement Criteria for Early College (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 (FCELPT). The FCELPT consists of the ACCUPLACER/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 authorized MDC to use FCAT (Grade 10) scores to exempt first-time-in-college (FTIC) early college (dual) enrollment students and FTIC students who are prior year high school graduates from placement testing. The FCAT Pilot is tentatively scheduled to end once registration begins for the 2009-1 Fall Term.

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 earned on the algebra section of the CPT. Placement **scores are valid for two years**. FCAT (Grade 10) 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 each semester.

REQUIRED TO TEST:

1. All degree-seeking first-time-in-college students and all college credit certificate-seeking students in Health Sciences programs. 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.
2. All college credit certificate-seeking students taking any course outside of their program.
3. All students who register for any English, or mathematics course (excluding MTB 1103), or any course that requires college-level Reading and/or Writing placement.
4. All students, except college credit certificate-seeking, who register beyond 12 cumulative credits. Note: A College Credit Certificate student who changes status to degree-seeking cannot claim placement exception as a first-time-in-college student for Gordon Rule or other purposes.
5. All students seeking early college (dual) enrollment. Note: Refer to page 10, Section V for placement guidelines.
6. All students, except college credit certificate-seeking, who took a placement examination more than **two** years ago and whose scores were not used for placement decisions. Note: Placement scores would not expire as long as there was any letter grade associated with the placement decision.

EXEMPTED FROM TESTING:

1. Students who have earned an associate degree or higher from an institution recognized by MDC. Official documentation is required. Students with foreign degrees from non-English speaking countries must present passing International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Test of English as a Foreign (TOEFL) scores.
2. Students who successfully completed (including exit exam) State approved high school courses with a 'C' grade or better (such as Reading for College Success: 1008350, Writing for College Success: 1009379, or Math for College Success: 1200410, equivalent to ENC0021, REA0003, MAT0020 or MAT0024 in their 12th grade year of high school and subsequently enroll in the appropriate course(s) (ENC1101 and/or MAT1033) at a Florida community college/college/state college within two years of high school graduation. Any course not successfully completed with a grade of 'C' or better will require the student to be tested on the appropriate CPT subtest(s).
3. Students who successfully completed a State approved high school course with a 'C' grade or better (such as Mathematics for College Readiness: 1200700) equivalent to MAT1033 in their 12th grade year of high school and achieved a score of 87 or higher on the CPT Elementary Algebra subtest, or a score of 520 or higher on the SAT Mathematics section, or a 22 or higher on the ACT Mathematics section and subsequently enroll in a College-level Algebra course at a Florida community college/college/ state college within two years of high school graduation.
4. Students who have earned the required course grade listed in the chart below. Any course grade presented, which is lower than the course grade 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.

EXEMPTION USING COURSE GRADE		
Skill Area	Course	Grade
Reading	REA 0003*	A, B, C, S
	REA 1105 or REA 1125	A, B, C, S
	ENC 1101, ENC 1102, ENC 2300, or ENC 2301	A, B, C, S
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
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, or STA)	A, B, C, S
* Letter grades 'A', 'B', and 'C' in college preparatory courses are used for transferred in and equivalent courses only.		
**MAT 1033 is a bridge course and does not count toward graduation.		
Note: Effective with the 2009-2010 Placement Criteria document SPC 1017 (formerly SPC 1026) was removed from this chart.		

5. 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).

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6. Students who present FCAT (Grade 10), 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 lower than the score 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, STA2023, etc.).

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE - FCAT, ACT, and SAT				
Skill Area	FCAT (Grade 10) Subtest Score	ACT Subtest Score	SAT Subtest Score	Course Placement
Reading	Reading \geq 355 or Level 4	Reading \geq 18	Critical Reading \geq 440	EXEMPT
Writing [^]	Reading \geq 355 or Level 4	English \geq 17	Critical Reading \geq 440	ENC 1101
Mathematics*	N/A	19 - 20	440 - 490	MAT 1033
	Math \geq 375 or Level 5	\geq 21	\geq 500	MAC 1105, MGF 1106, MGF 1107, or STA 2023

*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, MGF1107, or STA 2023 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, the student may be eligible for The Honors College and should check additional eligibility requirements at www.mdc.edu/honorscollege.

Institutional ACT and SAT scores from other institutions are not used for exemption purposes at MDC.

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE – FCELPT

Skill Area	ACCUPLACER (CPT) Subtest Score	Course Placement
Reading*	20 - 50	REA 0001 ⁽¹⁾
	51 - 70	REA 0002
	71 - 82	REA 0003
	83 - 120	EXEMPT
Writing*	20 - 50	ENC 0002 [▲]
	51 - 70	ENC 0020 [▲]
	71 - 82	ENC 0021 [▲]
	83 - 120	ENC 1101 [▲]

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

*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.

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

Skill Area	ACCUPLACER (CPT) Subtest Score			Course Placement
	Algebra	Arithmetic	College-Level Math	
Mathematics	20 – 71	20 - 29	Subtest Not Required	MAT 0002
	20 – 71	30 - 64	Subtest Not Required	MAT 0020
	20 – 71	65 - 120	Subtest Not Required	MAT 0024
	72 – 86	Subtest Not Required	Subtest Not Required ⁽¹⁾	MAT 1033 ⁽²⁾
	87 – 120 ⁽³⁾	Subtest Not Required	20 – 39	MAT 1033 ⁽²⁾
	87 – 120	Subtest Not Required	40 – 62	MAC 1105, MGF 1106, MGF 1107, or STA 2023
	87 – 120	Subtest 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 who test into college preparatory instruction and subsequently enroll in college preparatory instruction must successfully complete the required college preparatory studies by the time they have accumulated twelve (12) credits of college credit coursework or they must maintain continuous enrollment in college preparatory coursework each semester until the requirements are completed while performing satisfactorily in the degree.

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 The Honors College and should check additional eligibility requirements at www.mdc.edu/honorscollege.

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 (COMPASS/ESL [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 COMPASS/ESL (ACT-ESL) testing and/or completion of EAP courses.

REQUIRED TO TAKE AN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLACEMENT TEST:

1. All students required to test in Section 1 (page 1) who graduated from a non-English speaking high school.
2. All students required to test in Section 1 (page 1) who took ESOL during their eleventh or twelfth grade at any English speaking high school.
3. All students required to test in Section 1 (page 1) who earned a GED in Spanish.
4. All students required to test in Section 1 (page 1) 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 Allied Health college credit certificate programs are required to take an MDC approved English proficiency placement test in order to determine eligibility.

EXEMPTED FROM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY PLACEMENT TEST:

1. The table below indicates the TOEFL scores used to exempt students from English proficiency placement testing. Note: Institutional TOEFL scores from other institutions are not used for exemption purposes at MDC.

TOEFL Exam	Total Score
Paper-and-pencil	550 or higher
Computer-based	213 or higher
Internet-based*	79 or higher
*Effective 9/24/2005	

2. The table below indicates the IELTS score used to exempt students from English proficiency placement testing.

IELTS Exam	Total Score
Overall Band Score*	6.5 or higher
*Effective 2/10/2009	

3. All students who earned a college credit certificate in a MDC program of more than 12 credits or from an institution recognized by MDC are exempt from English proficiency placement testing. Official documentation is required.

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Note: EAP levels 1 through 4 are college preparatory levels and EAP levels 5 and 6 are college-level that do not count towards graduation.

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE – EAP				
EAP Writing Sample Score			Course Placement	
0.1			Pre-Level 1	
1			Level 1 – EAP 0140	
2			Level 2 – EAP 0240	
3			Level 3 – EAP 0340	
4			Level 4 – EAP 0440	
5			Level 5 – EAP 1540	
6			Level 6 – EAP 1640	
7			Exempt from EAP	
COMPASS/ESL (ACT–ESL) Subtest				Course Placement
Composite Score	Grammar Score	Reading Score	Listening Score	
25 - 45				Level 1
46 - 58				Level 2
59 - 69				Level 3
70 - 78	70 - 80	79 - 86	72 - 82	Level 4
79 - 92*	81 - 88	87 - 92	83 - 91	Level 5
93 - 99**	89 - 97	93 - 97	92 - 97	Level 6
	98 - 99	98 - 99	98 - 99	See Chairperson
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. *Use subtest scores for course placement. **Exempt if writing sample score is Exempt from EAP				

III. PROCEDURES FOR TESTING AND PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR POSTSECONDARY CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Depending on the program, MDC administers the TABE Complete Battery or Survey, Level A, Forms 9 and 10. Levels D & M may be used if the completion level of the program is at the 9th grade level or less. Level D may also be used for the higher grade levels on an as needed basis for post-testing purposes. Completion of a prescribed remediation program consisting of at least 60 hours of instruction is required prior to retesting with a minimum 30-day period between retests.

Notes:

- The same TABE Form and Level must not be administered within a six month period. Remediation must include 60 hours of instruction between pre/and post-testing, using an alternate version of the TABE and at least 120 hours of instruction when using the same level and same form. If no formal instruction is provided or documented, six months must elapse when using the same level, same form.
- The TABE may not be used as a sole determinant for entry into a career and technical education program.

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 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 9).

REQUIRED TO TEST:

1. All first-time-in-program students who designate themselves as certificate-seeking in a 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. Students with foreign degrees from non-English speaking countries must present passing IELTS or TOEFL scores.
2. Students who present FCAT (Grade 10), 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 programs. Any score presented which is lower than the score needed for exemption will require the student to be tested on the appropriate TABE subtest(s).
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 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.
6. Students enrolled in a State approved apprenticeship program are exempt from the requirement of taking the TABE test.

EXEMPTED FROM MEETING THE BASIC SKILLS EXIT SCORE REQUIREMENT ONLY:

Students who attempted the TABE at least two times and pass a related State, national or industry licensure exam are exempt from meeting the basic skills exit score requirement in the related program. The identified credentialing examination has to be specific to the career and must be necessary in order to work in that field. Documentation supporting the successful completion of the credentialing examination is required. The list of licensure programs that exempt students from meeting this requirement is available in the campus Testing Department.

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 post-testing in pre-GED classes must take TABE levels "D" or "A".

Students without sufficient English proficiency are referred to the Adult English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. Refer to Section IV-C (page 9).

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

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

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE – ABE and PRE-GED			
Skill Area	TABE Grade Equivalent*	Literacy Completion Point / Educational Functioning Level	Course Placement
Reading	6.0 – 8.9	LCP/EFL – (D, B, C)	EDU 090, EDU 063 [▲] , and EDU 089 [▲]
Language	5.0 – 5.9	LCP/EFL – M	EDU 083
	6.0 – 8.9	LCP/EFL – A	EDU 080
Math	4.0 – 5.9	LCP/EFL – C	EDU 073
	6.0 – 8.9	LCP/EFL – E	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.

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 have passed all of the subtests of the GED test without obtaining an overall passing score of 2250. All other students are registered in the appropriate EDU courses based on their TABE scores. Refer to Section IV-A, (page 6):

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:

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE – GED Preparatory		
Skill Area	Literacy Completion Point / Educational Functioning Level	Courses Placement
Language/Writing	LCP/EFL – A	EDU 085
Social Studies	LCP/EFL – B	EDU 078
Science	LCP/EFL – C	EDU 079
Literature/Reading	LCP/EFL – D	EDU 095
Mathematics	LCP/EFL – E	EDU 077

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 and Work (reading and listening forms) for initial placement and post-testing ESOL students, or CASAS - Employability Competency System (reading form) for post-testing ELCATE students only. The writing sample is used to determine literacy in the student's native language. Students are placed in ESOL non-advanced courses based on the lower of the Reading and Listening scores and placed in ESOL advanced courses based on the Reading score only. Students are placed in ELCATE courses based on Reading scores only. 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 ESOL (EDU 058), High Advanced ESOL (EDU 064), or Advanced ELCATE (EDU 070). Students transitioning from EDU 058, EDU 064, or EDU 070 to career certificate 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. The Basic English Skills Test (BEST Plus) is used for pre and post-testing off-campus Literacy for Household Grant ESOL students.

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.

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE – ELCATE			
Skill Area	CASAS Score	Literacy Completion Point / Educational Functioning Level	Course Placement Level[▲]
ELCATE Beginning	201 – 210	LCP/EFL – A	EDU 068
ELCATE Intermediate	211 – 220	LCP/EFL – B	EDU 069
ELCATE Advanced	221 – 235	LCP/EFL – C	EDU 070

[▲]Based on Reading score only.

COURSE PLACEMENT GUIDE – ESOL				
Skill Area	CASAS Score	BEST Plus Score	Literacy Completion Point / Educational Functioning Level	Course Placement Level[▲]
Foundations	<181*	<401	LCP/EFL – A	EDU 057
Low Beginning ESOL	181 – 190	401 – 417	LCP/EFL – B	EDU 059
High Beginning ESOL	191 – 200	418 – 438	LCP/EFL – C	EDU 060
Low Intermediate ESOL	201 – 210	439 – 472	LCP/EFL – D	EDU 061
High Intermediate ESOL	211 – 220	473 – 506	LCP/EFL – E	EDU 062
Low Advanced ESOL	221 – 235	507 – 540	LCP/EFL – F	EDU 058
High Advanced ESOL	236+	541+	LCP/EFL – A	EDU 064**

*Students must be literate in their native language.
 **New optional course effective 2005-3.
[▲]Based on the lower of the Reading and Listening scores for non-advanced courses and Reading only for advanced courses.

V. PROCEDURES FOR TESTING AND PLACEMENT CRITERIA FOR EARLY COLLEGE (DUAL) ENROLLMENT

Florida Statute, Section 1007.271 describes the early college (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.

Early college (dual) enrollment students must pass the appropriate sections of the FCAT (Grade 10), CPT, ACT, or SAT, to enroll in college credit courses. Students in an approved technical preparatory program who plan on enrolling in career certificate 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 EARLY COLLEGE (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 (Grade 10), 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 (Grade 10), ACT or SAT prior to registering for accounting courses.
4. Students must pass **all** sections of the FCAT (Grade 10), CPT, ACT, or SAT for science (biology, chemistry, physics, earth science) and engineering courses.