



FLORIDA COLLEGE ENTRY-LEVEL PLACEMENT TEST

(Commonly referred to as the CPT)

In order to enhance the success of students, Miami Dade College (MDC) has established an entry-level placement assessment program. Through this assessment, the College can identify academic strengths and weaknesses in reading, writing, and mathematics. This information will be used to advise and place students in courses that will improve their reading, writing, and mathematics skills.

TEST INFORMATION

The College administers the ACCUPLACER (CPT) battery of the FCELPT for basic skills assessment on all of its campuses. The CPT is not timed, but takes approximately one-and-a-half to two hours. A paper-and-pencil version of the CPT is also available upon request only. The paper-and-pencil version is timed and takes two-and-one-half hours to complete. On the day of the test, you will need to bring an official photo-bearing ID card (official ID's include military, unexpired passports, FL driver's license, FL ID, and recent alien residency card).

TEST ADMINISTRATION

All students must take the reading, writing, and algebra sections. Algebra test scores will be used to determine if the student should take an arithmetic test or an advanced mathematics test. There is no penalty for guessing on any of the sections. If your score is below the State-mandated score on any portion of the test, State policy requires placement in college preparatory classes.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND ADDITIONAL TESTING

Special editions of the CPT are available for students with disabling conditions. Special testing accommodations for students with disabilities are available from the campus ACCESS Department. Additional testing may be conducted by the Campus Testing Department for special student populations or by request. For example, the College-Level Mathematics subtest may be administered to determine higher scoring level Mathematics skills, and the PASS (a practice version of the CPT) may be administered prior to CPT testing.

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TESTING

Students without sufficient proficiency in English to take the CPT are required to take an MDC approved English Placement Test (EPT or COMPASS/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. A documented score of 550 on the paper-and-pencil Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or a 213 on the computerized TOEFL, or a 79 on the internet-based TOEFL exempts a student from English proficiency testing. Note: Institutional TOEFL scores from other institutions are not used for exemption purposes at MDC. CPT testing is required following EPT or COMPASS/ESL testing and/or completion of EAP courses.



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RETEST INFORMATION

Placement test scores are valid for two years. If you have not used those scores for course placement during that time, you will be required to take the test again. 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. Students who have already begun any level of college preparatory instruction in a subject area may only be referred for retesting on an individual basis by faculty through their department chairs. After the two-year period, because scores are no longer valid for placement, students are free to retake the test.

ABILITY-TO-BENEFIT (ATB) TESTING GUIDELINES

Students who did not earn a "standard" high school diploma or GED are required to pass an approved Ability-To-Benefit test to qualify for Federal Financial Aid Programs under the U.S. Department of Education "Ability-To-Benefit" guidelines. As of February 1, 2002 MDC uses the Internet version of the CPT (ACCUPLACER on-line) for this purpose. Additional information is available from the campus Financial Aid Department.

All students entering MDC for the first time are encouraged to take the entry-level assessment battery.

ASSESSMENT IS MANDATORY FOR THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS

1. All degree-seeking first-time-in-college students and all college credit certificate-seeking students in Allied Health 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.
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 or whose scores were used for placement, but who have not yet passed a course in the corresponding subject area.

THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS ARE EXEMPT 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 TOEFL scores.
2. Students who have earned the required course grade based upon an approved College chart. 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.
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).
4. Students who present FCAT, SAT, or ACT scores meeting State requirements. 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, etc.).



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ADDITIONAL TESTING INFORMATION

Information about each section of the CPT is provided on the following pages. Sample questions are also included. Please review this information for each of these areas prior to taking the CPT.

For test preparation and practice information, please visit the appropriate links.

For ACCUPLACER's Introduction for Students, please visit:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/accuplacer/index.html>

For ACCUPLACER's Sample Questions, *please visit:*

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/accuplacer/preparation-sample.html>

For MDC's Testing Department location, please visit:

http://www.mdc.edu/testing_information/CPT_CLAST/campdept.asp

For additional testing information, please visit:

www.mdc.edu/testing_information

The mission of Miami Dade College is to provide accessible, affordable, high quality education by keeping the learner's needs at the center of decision-making and working in partnership with its dynamic, multi-cultural community.