

# The ACCUPLACER Placement Test

ACCUPLACER is a computerized multiple-choice exam developed by the College Board which assesses your academic skill-levels in math, reading and English. ACCUPLACER is not a pass/fail exam—it is used for course placement only. Test results are good for 2 years. Personal calculators or dictionaries are not allowed during testing.

## Math Section

ACCUPLACER is an adaptive test which means that the level of difficulty is determined by your correct responses. Depending on your performance, you may take one or more of the following math tests:

- **Elementary Algebra:** 12 questions including integers and rational numbers, formulas and expressions, monomials and polynomials, factoring, graphing, and linear equations.
- **College-Level Math:** 20 questions ranging from higher-level algebra to geometry, trigonometry, and pre-calculus.
- **Arithmetic:** 17 questions focusing on basic math concepts including whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents.

## English Section

Your English composition and reading placement will be based on the results of the Sentence Skills and Reading Comprehension exams. An additional written essay may be required for placement.

- **Reading Comprehension:** 20 questions focusing on locating main ideas, drawing conclusions, and finding the relationship between two sentences.
- **Sentence Skills:** 20 questions focusing on grammar and sentence structure.

For further questions about the test, contact the Testing Coordinator at (203) 332-5217 or stop by L104 Lafayette Hall.

Your Scheduled Test Date:

M T W Th

**Be sure to bring your student Banner ID number and a photo ID on the day of the test!**



[www.Housatonic.edu](http://www.Housatonic.edu)

900 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT 06604

# ACCUPLACER Placement Testing For New Students



# Frequently Asked Questions About the ACCUPLACER Placement Test

## What is a placement test?

A placement test is required for all students who have not successfully completed **college-level** English and/or math classes. Placement testing helps identify your academic strengths and needs in math, English and reading. The test is not timed, but usually takes 1½ hours to complete. After testing you meet with an Academic Advisor, and the results are used to select appropriate courses based on your current level of ability.

## Who must take a placement test?

- All new students enrolling in a degree or certificate program
- Transfer students who have not successfully completed an English composition and/or college-level math course with a grade of “C” or better
- Any student planning to take an English writing or math course
- Any student registering for a course with an English or math pre-requisite
- Any student taking English as a Second Language courses
- All High School Partnership applicants, home schooled students and high school students seeking early admission to college

## Is there a fee for the test?

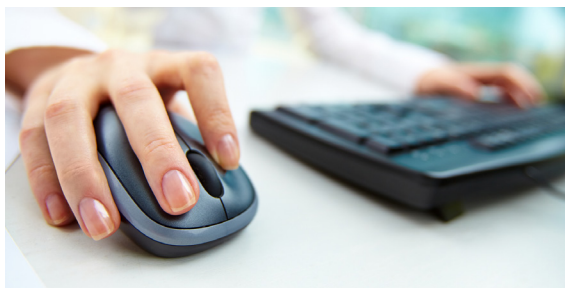
There is no fee for the test; however, new students must fill out an Application for Admissions form and get a student Banner ID number before testing.

## Can I be exempt from testing?

The following students may not have to take a placement test:

- Students who have completed **college-level** English and/or math courses with a grade of “C” or better
- Students with an Associates Degree or higher (must provide transcripts)
- Students who have taken the ACCUPLACER exam at another college in the past 2 years (must provide documentation if tested outside the CT community college system)
- Students with qualifying SAT/ ACT scores (minimum scores are listed below). Test scores are valid for 2 years from the date of exam. To be waived from testing, bring a copy of your SAT/ ACT test scores to the Admissions office.
  - **SAT** before 3/1/16: 500 in Math; 450 in Critical Reading
  - **SAT** after 3/1/16: 530 in Math Section; 25 in Reading Test
  - **ACT**: 18 in Math, and/or 37 in English and Reading

**If you are unsure whether or not you qualify for an exemption or waiver, talk to an Academic Advisor or Counselor (L112 Lafayette Hall).**



## What if English is not my first language?

There is a special ESL exam for students whose first language is not English. The ESL tests are **Reading Skills, Sentence Meaning and Language Usage**. The ESL tests will measure your language skills to see if you need additional help with the English language or if you are ready for regular college-level courses.

## Can I retake the placement test?

Students who place into developmental courses may be eligible for free English and/or math refresher programs offered in the CAP. For more information, contact the CAP coordinator in A227 Lafayette Hall.

## How can I prepare for the test?

Free Accuplacer workshops are held daily in the Center for Academic Progress (CAP) A227 Lafayette Hall. In the workshop, you will take a sample test in math and English which will help identify your areas of academic ability. Upon completing the workshop, you will be provided with a list of online links and study resources, so you can continue to prepare before scheduling your test.

## To schedule your ACCUPLACER test, visit the HCC website.

Look for **Testing Services** under **Admissions**. You must have a student Banner ID in order to schedule the test.

If special testing accommodations are required, contact the Testing Coordinator at (203) 332-5217.