

Madisonville Community College

ACADEMIC PLACEMENT TESTING POLICY

In Fall 2001, the Kentucky Council on Post-secondary Education mandated placement testing using the ACT, COMPASS, or ASSET tests to be completed before admission into any state college. The purpose of this mandate was to better insure student success in college through appropriate placement in basic academic skills courses (reading, writing, and mathematics). The Kentucky Community & Technical College System implemented the mandate with the establishment of a placement chart designating test scores for specific developmental and entry-level college courses. Each college was asked to devise plans to develop operation details to accomplish this goal.

- Students who achieve an ACT score of 18 or above in reading are not required to enroll in any reading course and may enroll in any program appropriate courses.
- Students who achieve an ACT score of 18 or above in writing may enroll in ENG 101.
- Students who achieve an ACT score of 20 or above may enroll in MT 150 College Algebra or appropriate higher-level math course.
- Students who achieve scores lower than those mentioned above will be required to take the COMPASS (computer-based) or ASSET (paper/pencil) placement test in its entirety or in separate skill areas in order to be placed in the appropriate developmental course.

After the initial placement test (Test #1) has been completed, students may choose to re-test (Test #2) one additional time without remediation if they feel that the score does not reflect their level of expertise in all or any one of the basic skill areas. We have found this to be a worthwhile option because students may raise their scores because of better understanding of the test format.

If students continue to achieve scores indicating need for remediation, they have two options which must be completed before re-testing (Test #3):

- Enroll in a Gateway to Academic Progress (GAP) Program and complete a minimum of 12 hours of remediation in the basic skill area.
- Enroll in a developmental course in that basic skill area and successfully complete the requirements for the course.

All subsequent additional testing may occur only after completing additional remediation, as mentioned above.

Records of testing will be maintained by the Director of the MCC Assessment Center.

All test scores are valid for a period of five years. Students with scores older than five years must re-test before enrolling at MCC.

Cost of testing:

- If students do not have a test score which correctly places them in basic skill areas, the first COMPASS or ASSET test will be free of charge.
- Re-tests for a complete set (reading, writing, and mathematics) will be \$20.
- Re-tests in individual skill areas will cost \$10 per section.