

3357:13-14-201 Assessing Incoming Students' Readiness Skills (Student Placement) Procedures

(A) These procedures describe the processes for assessing students' skills and placing students in courses appropriate to their skill levels. These procedures do not describe College Credit Plus program eligibility, for which the Ohio Department of Higher Education defines rules for participation (see [College Credit Plus Student Eligibility Assessments](#)).

(B) North Central State College uses a Multiple Measures placement process to ensure that enrolling post-high school students' skills are assessed as accurately as possible. The primary measure of placement used is the students' high school GPA (minimally through the completion of junior year of high school).

(1) A high school GPA of 2.5 or higher will qualify students for college-level English and mathematics classes.

(2) A GPA below 2.5 will qualify students for college-level classes paired with a co-requisite support class in English and Statistics.

(3) Students with a College Algebra requirement who have a GPA under 2.5 will be required to take a developmental mathematics course, unless they score high enough on a placement test to place into the college-level Algebra course.

(4) Placement tests will be used as a secondary measure for those whose high school GPA is lower than 2.5.

The tests will help to ensure that students whose scores meet the remediation-free thresholds set by the state of Ohio are allowed to enroll in college-level classes. The pairing of GPA and placement tests will result in more accurate placement and accelerated completion of gateway English and mathematics classes.

(C) Students are assigned to mathematics and English classes based on their program requirements and these high school GPA guidelines:

High School GPA	Mathematics Placement for STEM and other programs requiring the College Algebra-Calculus path
2.5 or above with completion of Algebra II in high school	MATH 1110 College Algebra
2.5 or above with completion of pre-calculus or trigonometry in high school	MATH 1150 Calculus I
Below 2.5 (or above 2.5 with no Algebra II in high school)	MATH 0084 Intro and Intermediate Algebra

High School GPA	Mathematics Placement for programs NOT requiring College Algebra
2.5 or above	STAT 1010 Probability and Statistics Or MATH 1070 Applied Geometry & Trigonometry
Below 2.5	<u>Co-requisite courses:</u> STAT 9920 Probability and Statistics with Co-requisite Algebra Lab Or MATH 0065 Algebra for Applied Geometry & Trigonometry and MATH 1070 Applied Geometry & Trigonometry

High School GPA	English Placement
2.5 or above	ENGL 1010 English Composition I
Below 2.5	ENGL 9920 Combined ENGL 1010 and ENGL 0010 Lab

(D) As a secondary measure for students whose high school GPA does not qualify them for college-level classes and for CCP students who have not completed the first semester of the 12th grade, ACCUPLACER/ACT testing is used for evaluating students' proficiency in reading, language usage, composition, and mathematics. ACCUPLACER/ACT scores are used to advise and register students in classes suited to their skill level to help ensure their academic success. Minimum "college readiness" scores are determined by the College in compliance with State of Ohio directives and guidelines. The current standardized cutoff (minimum threshold) scores used to register students in appropriate classes are shown in NCSC procedure [14-202](#).

(E) A threshold GED score has been established for college-level courses by the state of Ohio (see also procedure [14-202](#)).

- (F) ACCUPLACER ESL is used for assessing English language proficiency of students whose first language is not English. International students demonstrate their levels of proficiency in English (listening/speaking, reading, writing, and grammar) through ACCUPLACER ESL scores. Resident students whose first language is not English and who believe that they may *not be completely fluent* in English reading, writing, or speaking are encouraged to take the ACCUPLACER ESL placement exams. International students with a TOEFL score of 500 or higher on the paper-based test (or 61 or higher on the Internet-based test or 173 or higher on the computer-based test) are not required to take the ACCUPLACER ESL placement exams. Cutoff scores used for placement in the four levels of ESL courses are shown in NCSC procedure [14-202](#).
- (G) TEAS testing (Test of Essential Academic Skills) is required for admission into both nursing programs: Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing Certificate. TEAS is a four-hour, computerized assessment of reading, writing, mathematics, and science knowledge. Advanced registration and payment of the testing fee in the Cashier's Office are required. Cutoff scores are determined by the Nursing program.
- (H) North Central State College encourages students to submit their transcripts when they apply for admission to the college and before their testing appointment. As part of testing, students will be asked to self-report their GPA. This will be used for initial placement and later compared with official high school transcripts when received, and schedule adjustments made as needed.
- (I) Testing is required of first-time-ever-in-college students with less than a 2.5 high school GPA (unless they have a qualifying score from previous testing) who are required to take College Algebra (earned after the first semester of the 12th grade).
- (J) Students are encouraged to prepare for assessment testing through the use of materials and links that are provided to them and posted on the NCSC Testing and Assessment Services web page and through tutoring sessions and materials that are available at the NCSC Tutoring Resource Center. The assessment and placement process must ensure that students are adequately prepared for placement testing since students are not well served by a process that results in students' not recognizing the need and means to do their best on placement assessments.
- (K) Students must complete assessments in a qualified, proctored setting. Students are offered accommodations for testing if they provide documentation of a disability.
- (L) Assessment and placement are encouraged at the time of enrollment for degree-seeking students.

- (M) Previous test scores are used unless the tests were taken over five years ago. ACCUPLACER/ACT/SAT scores from other institutions are used when available. If scores are below the required cutoff score (or for SAT, if below the ODHE-defined remediation-free standard), they do not qualify the student for college-level Algebra coursework, and the student must retest. If a student has ACT or ACCUPLACER scores 5 years or older, he or she is advised to retest.
- (N) ACCUPLACER/ACT scores are not required for some students transferring English/mathematics credits. Students who have completed an associate or bachelor's degree or higher are not required to take the ACCUPLACER/ACT tests if they have completed college-level English or mathematics. They also may not be required to take the placement tests if they are transferring in college credit for college-level English or mathematics classes. ACCUPLACER may be waived with transfer credit or ACT scores (specified in NCSC procedure [14-202](#)).
- (O) Retesting is provided. Any student in a College Algebra track placing into a developmental course may retest, no more than two additional times for a total of three times, for \$25 each retest, or the student may elect to enter the Solutions program and postpone enrolling in college-level classes until competency is demonstrated (testing upon completion of the Solutions program is done at no cost).
- (P) Readiness for CCP courses can be demonstrated based on high school achievement in mathematics or English. College Credit Plus and College Now students are encouraged to apply for exemption from test results for placement in college-level English and mathematics classes based on their high school achievement (if their test scores are below the threshold for placement in these courses). Students seeking exemption requesting the recommendations of their high school counselor and mathematics/English instructors and submit a CCP Prerequisite Override Form [14-201b](#) based on these additional indicators of college readiness—GPA, demonstrated performance in similar coursework, end of course examinations, and/or non-cognitive factors. The form is forwarded to the CCP Director at North Central State College.
- (Q) Registration priorities are established for developmental and gateway courses. Students are encouraged to build foundational skills their first terms in college and complete college-level mathematics and English within their first year.
- (R) Supplementary lab courses are required for students with lower than college-level GPAs or placement scores. Supplementary lab sections are offered to provide additional skill building and greater success for students with below cutoff assessment scores. Students

with below-cutoff GPAs or mathematics assessment scores are required to enroll in STAT 9920 (with the STAT 0086 lab as the co-requisite for STAT 1010) or MATH 0065 (co-requisite with MATH 1070). Those with scores not qualifying for gateway English are required to enroll in ENGL 9920 (with the ENGL 0010 lab as the co-requisite for ENGL 1010). The current standardized cutoff scores used to register students in co-requisite lab classes are shown in NCSC procedure [14-202](#). Students who are repeating ENGL 1010, MATH 1070, and STAT 1010 are recommended to enroll in a co-requisite lab section for the subsequent attempt.

(S) All first-time in college, degree seeking and LPN students are required to take the FYEX (First Year Experience) course during the first term to increase their likelihood of academic success, persistence, and degree completion. High school students enrolled in College Now and College Credit Plus courses are not required to take the FYEX course until they matriculate as post-secondary students at the college. The FYEX course requirement may be waived for students who meet one of the following conditions:

- (1) Have a college degree
- (2) Have completed a similar college course and have a successful academic record—cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better in previous college courses (through a review of their informal transcript)
- (3) Are only taking one or two courses for transfer, a work requirement, or skill improvement
- (3) Have completed a tour of duty in the military with the successful completion of military occupational specialty (MOS) training.
- (5) Are taking courses as part of an apprenticeship or employee-sponsored training. The First Year Experience (FYEX) Course Waiver Form ([14-201c](#)) is used by advisors to document in the student's record that he or she is exempt from the FYEX requirement.

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