

ASSESSMENT/COURSE PLACEMENT STUDY GUIDE

Southeast Community College is committed to your success.

All applicants and students desiring to take English, math, and courses that require a specific level of academic skills are required to demonstrate academic readiness through one of the following ways:

- Provide Next-Generation ACCUPLACER®/ACCUPLACER®/ACT/SAT® scores from within the past <u>five</u> years in the areas of reading and writing, and within the last <u>three</u> years for math. *Please note that all SCC Programs of Study have specific acceptance scores.* Contact Admissions for information about your desired Program of Study or an advisor for specific course requirements.
- Submit an official college transcript showing three or more completed credit hours of math or writing. Course grades must be a C or higher.

About the Next-Generation ACCUPLACER®

The Next-Generation ACCUPLACER® is a computer-based course-placement test and is not timed.

As you prepare to take the Next-Generation ACCUPLACER®, consider using the resources provided at https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students to assist you with reviewing information and accessing practice tests. Specifically, the student portal page will provide information about test content, preparation, and practice tests.

A free math resource is **khanacademy.org**. Click on Courses (on the upper left) for a list of high school and college math subjects.

What does the Next-Generation ACCUPLACER® cover?

MATH

Next-Generation Arithmetic

focuses on computation, order of operations, estimation and rounding, comparing and ordering values in different formats, and recognizing equivalent values across formats.

The following knowledge and skills categories are assessed:

- » Whole Number Operations
- » Fraction Operations
- » Decimal Operations
- » Percent
- » Number Comparisons and Equivalents

Next-Generation Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics (QAS) assesses the

following knowledge and skills:

- » Rational numbers
- » Ratio and Proportional Relationships
- » Exponents
- » Algebraic Expressions
- » Linear Equations
- » Linear Applications and Graphs
- » Probability Sets
- » Descriptive Statistics
- » Geometry Concepts

Next-Generation Advanced Algebra and Functions (AAF)

assesses the following knowledge and skills:

- » Linear Equations
- » Linear Applications and Graphs
- » Factoring
- » Quadratics
- » Functions
- » Radical and Rational Equations
- » Polynomial Equations
- » Exponential and Logarithmic Equations
- » Trigonometry

READING

Next-Generation Reading

assesses the test-taker's ability to derive meaning from a range of texts and to determine the meaning of words and phrases in short and extended contexts. Passages on the test cover a range of content areas, writing modes, and complexities. Both single and paired passages are included.

Four broad knowledge and skills categories are assessed:

- » Information and Ideas
- » Rhetoric
- » Synthesis
- » Vocabulary

Depending on your Next-Generation ACCUPLACER® reading score, you may be prompted to take the **WritePlacer®**. The WritePlacer® assesses the <u>writing skills</u> of college students.

Test scores help colleges determine whether a student is ready for college-level coursework or if they would benefit from developmental instruction before taking credit-bearing courses.

Students taking the WritePlacer® are presented with a prompt and asked to write an essay of 300 to 600 words. The prompt will be a short passage, and students will be asked to focus the writing assignment on the issue addressed in the passage.

WritePlacer® prompts are carefully designed to allow the student to respond quickly and in a variety of ways. They are free of technical or specific literary references and don't require specialized knowledge. The prompts are designed to stimulate critical thinking and are relevant to any number of fields and interests. Students will be asked to draw on a broad range of experiences, learning, and ideas to support their point of view on the issue in question. Scores on the WritePlacer® range from 1 to 8. An essay that is too short to be evaluated, written on a topic other than the one presented, or written in a language other than English will be given a score of zero.

How can I improve my score?

There are a number of ways that students can improve their placement scores.

- Prospective students are encouraged to visit with an Admissions Counselor to discuss the best option to maximize their success.
- 2. Current students should connect with their College Advisor to determine their best option.
- 3. **Study!** There are three common ways that students complete additional studying for the Next-Generation ACCUPLACER®:
 - 1. **Self-Study:** Using the information on this sheet and resources at https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students, students are encouraged to review material and complete practice assessments to prepare prior to retesting.
 - 2. **Transitions Lab:** The Transitions Lab is located inside the Tutoring & Transitions Center and is an excellent resource for students wanting to improve their test scores. In the Transitions Lab, students work with an Academic Coach to study in an online course, review sample tests, and receive tutoring in specific subject areas. There is a \$20 enrollment fee, and the retest is free. Students must complete a minimum of 5 hours prior to retesting.
 - Prospective students, contact **scctransitions@southeast.edu** to enroll.
 - 3. **Adult Education:** Adult Education includes basic skills in math, reading and writing; GED® prep; and English as a Second Language courses. You will work with an instructor to create an individualized learning plan, which can include online instruction as well as text resources. Lincoln ESL classes provide direct instruction. All Adult Education courses are free. Visit **www.southeast.edu/adulteducation** for more information.

Take the assessment test again! If your scores do not meet admission or placement levels, or you do not feel the scores are reflective of your ability, we encourage you to consider a retest. The Next-Generation ACCUPLACER® offers the flexibility to take just the section(s) needed rather than the entire test. If you submitted ACT or SAT® scores that do not meet the required levels, you are encouraged to take the Next-Generation ACCUPLACER®.

Take the course in which you were placed. You know yourself, your academic history, and your skills better than anyone. Many students make the decision to enroll in the initial course they tested into as they know it will equip them with a strong foundation in that area, helping them to succeed in their program. If you have multiple developmental courses to take, it is also an option to retest after completing a course to determine how your knowledge and skills have improved, giving you the opportunity to place into another level in the course sequence.

Next-Generation ACCUPLACER®

The Next-Generation ACCUPLACER® test is offered at the Testing/Assessment Centers at the Beatrice, Lincoln, and Milford campuses and the SCC Learning Centers. There is no charge for first-time test takers, and retakes are \$15. Current high school students may test and retest at no charge. Testing is limited to once in a 30-day period, and twice annually. Appointments are encouraged. For remote testing options please contact one of the SCC testing centers. *A photo ID is required to test.

SCC CAMPUS LOCATIONS		
Beatrice Campus 4771 W. Scott Rd., Beatrice, NE 68310 Testing Center - Kennedy Center - Room 115 Phone: 402-228-8242 Fax: 402-228-8935 Monday - Friday: 8 a.m 5 p.m.	Lincoln Campus 8800 O St., Lincoln, NE 68520 Testing Center - SAS 310 Phone: 402-437-2715 Fax: 402-437-2540 Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m 7:30 p.m. Friday: 8 a.m 5 p.m. Saturday: 8 a.m Noon	Milford Campus 600 State St., Milford, NE 68405 Testing Center - Assessment/Placement Center Phone: 402-761-8202 or 402-761-8377 Fax: 402-761-8439 Monday - Thursday: 7:30 a.m 6:30 p.m. Friday: 7:30 a.m 4 p.m.
Learning Center at Falls City 3200 Bill Schock Blvd., Falls City, NE 68355 Phone: 402-323-3396, 800-828-0072, Ext. 3396 Monday - Thursday: 9 a.m 5 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m 3 p.m. Additional times by appointment	Learning Center at Hebron 610 Jefferson Ave., Hebron, NE 68370 Phone: 402-323-5591, 800-828-0072, Ext. 5591 Monday - Friday: 9 a.m 5 p.m.	Learning Center at Nebraska City 1406 Central Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 Phone: 402-323-3636 Monday - Friday: 9 a.m 5 p.m.
Learning Center at Plattsmouth 537 Main St., Plattsmouth, NE 68048 Phone: 402-437-2298	Learning Center at Wahoo 536 N. Broadway, Wahoo, NE 68066 Phone: 402-323-5581, 800-828-0072, Ext. 5581	Learning Center at York 401 N. Lincoln Ave, York, NE 68467 Phone: 402-323-3635
Monday - Friday: 9:30 a.m 5 p.m. Additional times by appointment	Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m 5 p.m. Friday: 10 a.m 3:30 p.m. Additional times by appointment	Monday – Friday: 9 a.m 5 p.m. Additional times by appointment