



PLACEMENT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Information for Students
Academic Year 2009-2010

WHO TAKES THESE TESTS

New degree-seeking students are normally required to take Franklin University placement tests in reading, writing, math and computer literacy. Results of these tests determine the required preparatory and developmental education courses that are most appropriate for each individual. These courses are usually the first courses of enrollment because they are designed to help students succeed by strengthening academic skills and self-confidence. Transfer students may have certain tests waived due to previous course credit at another institution. Additionally, students who have taken the ACT may not have to take certain placement tests. Student Services Associates and Enrollment Advisors will advise students on the placement tests required, ways to prepare for tests, and appeal procedures.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE TESTS

READING AND WRITING → 1.5 hours, 40 questions total, multiple choice

The computer-based **reading and writing placement** assessments are administered simultaneously to determine placement in Communications (COMM) courses. It is not possible to take only one of the two exams.

The **reading assessment** measures a student's ability to understand what he or she has read. There are four content areas on this test: (1 identifying main ideas, (2 direct statements/secondary ideas, (3 inferences, and (4 applications. Examinees are presented with a series of 20 questions of two primary types. The first question type consists of a reading passage followed by a question based on the text. The second question type focuses on sentence relationships and presents two sentences followed by a question about the relationship between these two sentences.

The **writing assessment** measures students' understanding of sentence structure. i.e., how sentences are put together and what makes a sentence complete and clear. There are three content areas measured on this test: (1 recognizing complete sentences, (2 coordination/subordination, and (3 clear sentence logic. Each student receives 20 Sentence Skills items of two types. The first type consists of sentence correction questions and requires an understanding of sentence structure. These questions ask students to choose the most appropriate word or phrase to substitute for the underlined portion of the sentence. The second type consists of construction shift questions. These ask that a sentence be rewritten according to the criteria shown, while maintaining essentially the same meaning as the original sentence.

MATH

RE-ENTRY MATH → No time limit, 17 questions, multiple choice

The Re-Entry Math assessment is a computer-based test that places students into or exempts them from Re-Entry Math (MATH 040). The test measures students' ability to perform basic arithmetic operations and to solve problems that involve fundamental arithmetic concepts. There are three content areas measured on this test: (1 Whole numbers and fractions, (2 Decimals and percents, and (3 Applications. Questions from all three categories are always presented to the student, although the number of questions from each category varies with the student's skill level. As a result, the proportion of questions in the various categories will automatically vary according to the student's responses. An online calculator will be available for certain items.

FUNDAMENTAL ALGEBRA → 2 hours, 22 questions, multiple choice

All students (except those in subsequent degree programs) must meet the algebra competency requirement and may do so by taking the Algebra Competency assessment. This computer-based assessment places students into or exempts them from Fundamental Algebra (MATH 150). In addition, successful completion of this assessment meets the prerequisite for College Algebra (MATH 160) which is required for Computer Science, Digital Communications and Management Information Sciences students. The Algebra Competency assessment contains 22 multiple choice questions and must be completed within 120 minutes. To demonstrate proficiency, students must score at least a 73%. A programmable graphing calculator may be used although the TI-89 and TI-92 are not permitted.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA → 3 hours, 26 questions, multiple choice and graphing problems

Computer Science, Digital Communications and Management Information Sciences students may wish to take the College Algebra assessment to place out of MATH 160 College Algebra. It contains 26 questions and about half the points come from 17 multiple choice problems, while the other half come from 9 open-ended and graphing problems. Students will have 180 minutes to complete this assessment and must score above a 70% to demonstrate proficiency. A programmable graphing calculator may be used although the TI-89 and TI-92 are not permitted.

COMPUTER LITERACY → 2 hours, 100 questions, multiple choice

The Computer Literacy test places students into or exempts them from the Computer Literacy course (COMP 085). This computer based test contains 100 multiple choice questions and must be completed within 120 minutes. To demonstrate proficiency, students must score an 80% or above.

SCORES AND INTERPRETATION

It is important that students answer each question to the best of their ability. Scores will be used in part to determine course placement. Failure to do one's best may result in course placements that are inaccurate for a student's skill level.

Students will learn the scores of their Reading & Writing, Re-entry Math, Algebra Competency, and Computer Literacy placement assessments upon completion of each exam. These scores will be made available to your SSA.

Placement into two developmental education courses (Basic Writing I, Basic Writing II, College Reading Skills or Math 040) automatically places a student into College Study Skills and Orientation (COMM 025).

Students may appeal placement into re-entry math, algebra competency and study skills if they have reason to believe that a placement test did not give an accurate assessment of their skills. To appeal the results of these tests, students will need to request permission to complete a "re-take" assessment which will cover the same material but will not be identical to the original placement assessment. If permission by the SSA is granted, there is no waiting period between the original and re-take placement test; however, it is recommended that students review the placement study guides before re-testing. Students may not appeal a re-take placement test.

TAKING THE ASSESSMENTS

Franklin University has established procedures that must be followed while taking the placement assessments. They are as follows:

1. On the day of the assessment, you should be sure to take a valid, government-issued photo ID. This can be a driver's license, passport, state ID, or military ID.
2. You are not allowed to use any notebooks or books during the tests but scrap paper will be provided, if needed.
3. You must have your Placement Assessment Form emailed to the SLC by a Student Services Associate or an Enrollment Advisor.
4. Personal belongings will need to be stored in a locker or left in your vehicle.
5. You will be asked to sign the Placement Testing Agreement at the time you begin your first assessment.

PLACEMENT ASSESSMENT AVAILABILITY

The Main Campus Student Learning Center, located in Fisher Hall, offers placement testing on a drop-in basis during Student Learning Center (SLC) hours of operation. The Northwest Campus SLC offers drop-in placement testing during its hours of operation.

Main Campus SLC	Dublin/Northwest Campus SLC
<p style="text-align: center;">Hours of Operation</p> <p>Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The SLC will be closed Dec. 24th 2009- Jan. 1st 2010.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hours of Operation</p> <p>Tuesday 4 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Thursday 4 - 8 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The SLC will be closed Dec. 24th 2009- Jan. 1st 2010.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Telephone Number</p> <p>614.947.6800 or toll-free 1.866.341.6206</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Telephone Number</p> <p>614.947.6705 or toll-free 1.866.341.6206</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">E-Mail</p> <p style="text-align: center;">testing@franklin.edu</p>	

Please note that all testing must be concluded by the closing time of the SLC (i.e. if the SLC closes at 8:00 p.m. and the time allowed for a particular test is an hour and a half, the latest you can begin your test is 6:30 p.m.). Please call 614.947.6800 if you have questions.

Note: If you are a virtual student, please contact your SSA (toll-free 1.877.341.6300) to make arrangements to set up placement testing.