**Elementary Algebra**

A total of 12 questions are administered in this test.

- The first type involves operations with integers and rational numbers, and includes computation with integers and negative rationals, the use of absolute values, and ordering.
- A second type involves operations with algebraic expressions using evaluation of simple formulas and expressions, and adding and subtracting monomials and polynomials. Questions involve multiplying and dividing monomials and polynomials, the evaluation of positive rational roots and exponents, simplifying algebraic fractions, and factoring.
- The third type of question involves the solution of equations, inequalities, word problems. solving linear equations and inequalities, the solution of quadratic equations by factoring, solving verbal problems presented in an algebraic context, including geometric reasoning and graphing, and the translation of written phrases into algebraic expressions.

**Arithmetic**

This test measures your ability to perform basic arithmetic operations and to solve problems that involve fundamental arithmetic concepts. There are 17 questions on the Arithmetic tests divided into three types. Operations with whole numbers and fractions: topics included in this category are addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, recognizing equivalent fractions and mixed numbers, and estimating. Operations with decimals and percents: topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with decimals. Percent problems, recognition of decimals, fraction and percent equivalencies, and problems involving estimation are also given. Applications and problem solving: topics include rate, percent, and measurement problems, simple geometry problems, and distribution of a quantity into its fractional parts.

**College Level Math Test**

There are 20 questions on the College-Level Mathematics. The College-Level Mathematics test assesses from intermediate algebra through pre-calculus.

- Algebraic operations include simplifying rational algebraic expressions, factoring, expanding polynomials, and manipulating roots and exponents.
- Solutions of equations and inequalities includes the solution of linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, equation systems and other algebraic equations.
- Coordinate geometry includes plane geometry, the coordinate plane, straight lines, conics, sets of points in the plane, and graphs of algebraic functions.
- Applications and other algebra topics ask about complex numbers, series and sequences, determinants, permutations and combinations, fractions, and word problems.
- The last category, functions and trigonometry, presents questions about polynomials, algebraic exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions.

**ACCUPLACER® ESL**

The ACCUPLACER ESL assesses your English skills if you have learned English as an additional language to your native or first language. The ACCUPLACER ESL is divided into three sections. The test is in English, and all instructions are given in English. You cannot use a dictionary or an electronic translator, and you cannot bring friends or family members into the testing room to interpret for you. We want to measure your English skills in order to match you with the class that can best help you.

**ESL Writing Sample**

Prior to the computerized test, students will be required to complete a handwritten essay. This handwritten essay will be used to accurately assess your fundamental writing skills.

**ESL Reading Skills**

The Reading Skills test evaluates comprehension of short passages. There are 20 questions to this test. The content of passage is varied and deals with a variety of subjects including the arts, human relationships, physical science, history, social sciences, and practical situations. Half of the Reading Skills test contains straightforward comprehension items (paraphrasing, locating information, vocabulary on a phrase level, and pronoun reference). The other half assesses inference skills (main idea, fact vs. opinion, cause/effect logic, identifying irrelevant information, author's point of view, and applying the author's logic to another situation).
Purpose of the test

The College uses the ACCUPLACER® computerized test to provide you with useful information about your academic skills in Math, Writing, and Reading. The results of this computerized test, in conjunction with your academic background, goals, and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to determine your Math & English course selection. You cannot "pass" or "fail" the placement tests, but it is very important that you do your very best on these tests so we can have an accurate measure of your academic skills.

The test is untimed, but on average students take about 1-3 hours to complete the test.

**PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY!**

You must take the test if:
- you are an incoming student enrolled in a degree or certificate program
- you are a transfer student who has not successfully completed an English and/or Math prerequisite.
- you plan to register for a course with an English or Math prerequisite.
- you are a non-degree student seeking to enroll in an English, English as-a-Second Language (ESL) or Math course.

You may be exempt if:
- you completed coursework in a college level English and/or math course with a "C" or better.
- you scored 550 or more on the SAT Math exam
- You scored 450 or more on the SAT English exam (verbal/critical reading portion)
- you are 62 years or older pursuing a non-degree program, auditing a course or registering for courses that do not require Math and/English as a prerequisite.

Appropriate documentation (transcripts, SAT scores and ACCUPLACER® score reports) must be presented to the Placement Testing Center for review to determine whether requirements for exemption are met.

Test Administration

ACCUPLACER® is an adaptive test. This means questions are chosen for you on the basis of your answers to previous questions. This technique selects just the right questions for your ability level. Since the test works this way, you must answer every question when it is first given. Each test is untimed so you can give each question as much thought as you wish. You can change your answer to a particular question before moving on to the next question, but you cannot leave a question out or come back to it later to change your answer.

Please be serious and committed to doing your best. Schedule your test for a time when you will not be distracted or rushed.

Test Policies

Calculators, textbooks, notebooks, dictionaries, translators, food and drinks are NOT allowed in the testing room. The use of cellphones or any other electronic device must be turned off while you are in the testing room. Scratch paper and pencils will be provided.

At the End of the Test

Results are provided upon completion of the test. Proctors will review scores with you and provide you with the next steps in the registration process.

Test Retakes

Students who score below our test cut scores will be referred to the Academic Success Center to complete an intensive tutoring program. Once completed, students will be eligible to retake the test.

Students with Disabilities

Please contact Helena Carraquilho at 860.906.5204 or hcarraquilho@capitalcc.edu to obtain academic adjustments. You must schedule an appointment with Helena and provide documentation which describes your disability and supports your need to receive adjustments. This must be done at least 2 weeks prior to your test date. Adjustments will only be provided to students who have completed this process.

ACCUPLACER®

General Placement Test

WritePlacer (Essay)

This test measures your ability to write effectively, which is critical to academic success. Your writing sample will be scored on the basis of how effectively it communicates a whole message to the readers for the stated purpose. Your score will be based on your ability to express, organize, and support your opinions and ideas, not the position you take on the essay topic.

Sentence Skills

There are 20 Sentence Skills questions of two types. The first type is sentence correction questions that require an understanding of sentence structure. These questions ask you to choose the most appropriate word or phrase to substitute for the underlined portion of the sentence. The second type is construction shift questions. These questions ask that a sentence be rewritten according to the criteria shown while maintaining essentially the same meaning as the original sentence. Within these two primary categories, the questions are also classified according to the skills being tested. Some questions deal with the logic of the sentence, others with whether or not the answer is a complete sentence, and still others with the relationship between coordination and subordination.

Reading Comprehension

There are 20 questions of two primary types on the Reading Comprehension test. The first type consists of a reading passage followed by a question based on the text. Both short and long passages are provided. The reading passages can also be classified according to the kind of information processing required including explicit statements related to the main idea, explicit statements related to a secondary idea, application, and inference. The second type of question, sentence relationships, presents two sentences followed by a question about the relationship between these two sentences. The question may ask, for example, if the statement in the second sentence supports that in the first, if it contradicts it, or if it repeats the same information.