

**SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**SUBJECT: Testing and Evaluation for Student Placement and Satisfaction**

**(merged the Testing and Evaluation and Assessment and Placement of Students policies)**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2000; Revised April 13, 2023**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish assessment and evaluation guidelines for placement at Southwest Tennessee Community College (“Southwest” or “the College”).

**Definitions**

Weighted GPA- grade point average (GPA) that includes extra points for honors and advanced placement courses, which allows a student to exceed a 4.0 GPA.

Unweighted GPA- one that reflects grades on a 4.0 scale without regard for the difficulty of the coursework and, thus, gives no extra points for honors or advanced placement courses.

**Policy**

- I. In an effort to ensure that students are adequately prepared for college level courses and that each has a reasonable opportunity to succeed in their studies, the College, in accordance with Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) [Policy 2.03.00.03](#) (Learning Support-formerly A-100), requires that all students granted degree admission and all others for whom it is specifically required in the [General Admission policy](#) are subject to the applicable assessment requirements stated herein.

Unless otherwise exempt by high school weighted GPA, ACT scores, transfer credit, or other means, all degree-seeking applicants are encouraged to take a placement test that is designed to measure skills in reading, writing, and math. Approved cut scores (as prescribed by [TBR Policy 2.03.00.03](#)) for placement into college-level courses are listed below.

Subject Category	ACT Subject Score	Course Placement
English (Writing)	18 and above	College Level
	17 and below	ENGL 1010-English Composition I <b>and</b> ENGL 0810-English Support
Reading	19 and above	College Level

\*During the spring of 2023, former Southwest policy Testing and Evaluation, 2:00:00:00/28 was merged with former Southwest policy Assessment and Placement of Students, 2:03:00:00/32 to create this policy, which will retain policy number 2:00:00:00/28.

Subject Category	ACT Subject Score	Course Placement
Math	18 and below	ACAD 1100-Academic Success Seminar <b>and</b> READ 0810-Reading Support for ACAD 1100
	19 and above	College Level MATH 1000-Essentials of Algebra <b>and</b> MATH 0100-Support Course for Essentials of Algebra <i>or</i> MATH 1530-Probability and Statistics <b>and</b> MATH 0530-Support Course for Probability and Statistics
	18 and below	<i>or</i> MATH 1410-Math for Elementary Education <b>and</b> MATH 0410-Support Course for Math for Elementary Education 1 <i>or</i> MATH 1630-Finite Mathematics <b>and</b> MATH 0630-Support Course for Finite Mathematics

or

High School GPA	Placement
3.6 or higher cumulative high school GPA	College Level Placement
2.8 or higher cumulative high school GPA for Dual Enrollment	College Level Placement
3.59 or below cumulative high school GPA	Learning Support Placement ENGL 1010-English Composition I <b>and</b> ENGL 0810-English Support ACAD 1100-Academic Success Seminar <b>and</b> READ 0810-Reading Support for ACAD 1100 MATH 1000-Essentials of Algebra <b>and</b> MATH 0100-Support Course for Essentials of Algebra <i>or</i> MATH 1530-Probability and Statistics <b>and</b> MATH 0530-Support Course for Probability and Statistics <i>or</i> MATH 1410-Math for Elementary Education <b>and</b> MATH 0410-Support Course for Math for Elementary Education 1 <i>or</i> MATH 1630-Finite Mathematics <b>and</b> MATH 0630-Support Course for Finite Mathematics

Southwest provides academic support, known as Learning Support, using the framework provided in “Fundamental Features of Co-Requisite Remediation” as outlined in [TBR Policy 2.03.00.03](#) (Learning Support – formerly A-100).

- A. The College will use official GPA, ACT, or SAT scores no older than 5 (five) years (prior to the first day of the first term of enrollment) to determine proficiency and readiness for college-level work for all applicants.
  - B. For applicants who have not taken the ACT or the SAT test or whose scores are not current, or whose high school GPA is more than 5 (five) years old, Southwest offers the Residual ACT® test and the Accuplacer placement exam. While the Residual ACT® test can be used to enroll at Southwest, the score will not transfer to other institutions and will not be used to qualify for the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship program.
  - C. The following applicants are required to take all areas of the Accuplacer placement exam prior to enrollment in order to determine placement in college-level courses:
    - 1. Those who on the first day of classes of the term of initial enrollment have no transfer credits from other institutions.
    - 2. Those who have earned a GED or HiSET and have no transfer credit.
  - D. Transfer students who have not completed at least one (1) college-level English and one (1) college-level Mathematics course with a "C" or better from a regionally accredited institution will be required to undergo an Accuplacer assessment in the appropriate areas (i.e. writing, reading, and/or mathematics).
  - E. Students whose high school GPA, ACT, SAT, or COMPASS test scores do not indicate proficiency and readiness for college-level work must complete the prescribed remedial and developmental courses in reading, writing, and mathematics prior to enrolling in college courses for which such skills are prerequisite.
  - F. All students are evaluated for placement testing according to TBR [Policy, 2.03.00.02](#), Learning Support.
- II. To ensure the quality and effectiveness of its academic programs, the College requires that all students participate, as a condition of graduation, in College-wide activities to evaluate and assess curriculum and instruction. Participation in such activities may be requested of all students or of a statistically represented group. Students may, therefore, be requested to participate in an assessment activity listed herein or other assessment identified by the College.
- A. General Education Examination- this examination is designed to measure the effectiveness of the College’s general education program.

- B. Major Field Examination- an examination designed to assess the level of student learning in a particular field of study and the effectiveness of instruction.
- C. Student Satisfaction Survey- this survey is designed to assess the level of student satisfaction with the College's academic and instructional programs.
- D. Instructional Evaluation Survey- a survey designed to assist the College in valuating instruction and individual faculty members to improve their teaching. Student confidentiality is ensured.
- III. The [Southwest Testing Center](#) provides access to various state and national tests, as well as exam proctoring service. Its [webpage](#) provides a list of available tests and services. The College's testing center is a member of the National College Testing Association (NCTA).

**Responsible**  
Source of Policy: n/a

**VP of Student Affairs and**  
Administrator: VP of Academic Affairs

TBR Policy Reference: 2.03.00.02  
2.03.00.03

Related Policy: \_\_\_\_\_

TBR Guideline Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

Date: April 13, 2023