



3.3.0.1 Assessment Policy

ASSESSMENT TESTING

Students must complete the Accuplacer tests in Reading, English, and Mathematics prior to registering for courses at Century College (see Assessments for Transfer Students for possible exceptions). The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System requires assessment testing to determine proper course placement and to support students' academic success. Students must complete the appropriate assessment(s) prior to enrolling in any course for which a given assessment level is required. Students must begin any course work in Reading, English, and Mathematics at their assessed skill levels. Students may not register for courses above their assessed skill level. Lack of English skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation. In order to eliminate barriers we take appropriate measures to assess each student's ability to participate and benefit through placement testing and counseling. Based on assessment and counseling, students are then provided with campus services or a referral to community services to be better prepared for successful participation at Century College.

Students who are non-native speakers of English and who have had fewer than eight (8) years of education in the United States must complete the Accuplacer ESL and may also be asked to take the Accuplacer test in Reading, English, or Mathematics. Students who qualify to take the Accuplacer ESL must have a Testing Referral form signed by the ESOL Advocate before he/she can take the Accuplacer.

Accuplacer, Accuplacer ESL, Companion to Accuplacer, and the ACT test are approved for placement purposes by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Assessment/Placement Director and Committee and Century College. Assessment scores in Reading, English and ESOL are valid for six (6) semesters, and assessment scores in Mathematics are valid for four (4) semesters, following the test date (excluding summer session). After this period of time, if a student has not begun taking the required Reading, English, or Mathematics, or ESOL courses, the appropriate Accuplacer test(s) must be retaken.

Assessment scores from other institutions that use the above listed assessment test system will be considered and will be valid for either six (6) semesters (for Reading, English and ESOL) or four (4) semesters (for Mathematics) following the test date (excluding summer session). If students have taken the above mentioned test at another MnSCU institution and have applied to Century College and have verified their scores to

the Assessment staff, they do not have to provide a copy of their scores. If they did not take the Assessment test at a MnSCU institution or they did not verify their Assessment scores, then an official copy of a student's assessment scores must be mailed or faxed (651) 779-5831 to the Century College Assessment Center from the institution where they took the Assessment test.

An ACT test score of 24 or above in the Reading, English, or Mathematics components of the ACT exempts a student from taking the associated course readiness assessment in that academic subject. It also authorizes a student's placement in introductory college-level courses in that academic subject. ACT reading and English test scores are valid for six (6) semesters and the mathematics test score is valid for four (4) semesters following the test date (excluding summer session). A copy of a student's ACT scores must be hand-carried, mailed, or faxed (651) 779-5831 to the Century College Assessment Center.

Re-Testing

Students may re-test only once within twelve (12) months of their first testing date regardless of where the test was administered to the student. Upon re-testing the student may register based on either placement or consult a counselor for advice. Students seeking to retest in order to demonstrate the Ability to Benefit from instruction should see the Assessment Center staff.

Accommodations for Students with a Disability

Students who need accommodations for assessment testing due to a disability should contact the Access Center at (651) 779-3354 or (651) 779-3477. To receive accommodations, students must provide the Access Center with appropriate documentation.

ASSESSMENTS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students transferring college-level courses and holding an Associate in Arts or baccalaureate degree from a United States college/university that holds regional accreditation may not need to complete some parts of the assessment. Students planning to complete a degree/program at Century College must submit an official transcript(s) from institutions previously attended to determine any assessment exceptions. Students planning to take one course or just a few courses and who do not intend to complete a degree/program at Century College may provide an unofficial or student copy of their transcript(s) from institutions previously attended to determine any assessment exceptions. Unofficial transcripts are not retained by Century College. Unless or until transcript is received, the student may not be eligible to register for other Mathematics, English, or Reading courses.

Transfer students may be exempt from parts of the assessment tests for the following reasons when transferring from a United States college/university that holds regional accreditation:

1. Students who are transferring credits in college composition equivalent to ENGL 1021 with a grade of "C" or better do not need to take the English assessment.

2. Students who are transferring credits in college-level Mathematics (MATH 1025 or higher) with a grade of “C” or better do not need to take the mathematics assessment.
3. Students who are transferring credits in college reading equivalent to RDNG 1000 with a grade of “C” or better do not need to take the reading assessment.
4. Students who are transferring credits and have completed a minimum of three (3) reading intensive courses with grades of “B” or better do not need to take the reading assessment. Reading intensive courses may include English literature, philosophy, history, humanities, sciences, and the social and behavioral sciences.
5. Students who are transferring credits and have completed an Associate in Arts or Bachelor’s degree do not need to take the Reading, English, and Mathematics assessments. Students are still responsible for meeting any specific course prerequisites, however. Mathematics and science courses may require students to complete the mathematics assessment and meet prerequisites.
6. Students who have international education credentials must take the Accuplacer ESL and/or Reading, English, and Mathematics assessments. If students intend to transfer international education credits to Century, they must request an evaluation of their transcripts through World Education Services (WES) or Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) for credits earned outside the United States. Refer to the WES website at www.wes.org or the ECE website at www.ece.org.

Students applying to the Nursing program may still be required to take some assessments even when transferring college-level courses. All students must take the Accuplacer Arithmetic assessment and be placed into MATH 1000 or complete MATH 0010 with a grade of “C” or higher in order to apply to the Nursing program. Students applying to the Traditional Nursing Program are exempt if they have taken MATH 1000 or a transfer equivalent with a grade of “C” or higher. Students applying to the LPN or Paramedic Mobility Program are exempt if they have completed a college level math course equivalent to MATH 1025 or above with a grade of “C” or higher, or if they have completed MATH 1000 or a transfer equivalent with a grade of “C” or higher. The English assessment is waived for students who have completed the equivalent of ENGL 1021 with a grade of “C” or higher at a regionally accredited institution in the United States or who have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States. The Reading assessment is waived for students who have completed a college reading course equivalent to RDNG 1000 with a grade of “C” or higher, or have completed three reading intensive courses with a grade of “B” or higher at a regionally accredited institution in the United States, or who have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States.

Students applying to the Radiologic Technology program may still be required to take some assessments even when transferring college-level courses. Students must transfer the equivalent of RDNG 1000 with a grade of “C” or higher to be waived from the Reading assessment. Completing three (3) reading-intensive courses with a grade of “B”

or higher will not be accepted. The mathematics assessment is waived if students transfer in the equivalent of MATH 1061 or higher (College Algebra) with a grade of “C” or higher. The English assessment is waived for students who have completed the equivalent of ENGL 1021 with a grade of “C” or higher at a regionally accredited institution in the United States or who have a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution in the United States.

Date of Proposal: ~~03/06/2008~~ ~~11/03/2010~~, 3/4/2011

Date of Implementation: ~~04/01/2008~~ 01/01/2011

Date Revised: 4/1/2004; 11/1/07, 10/02/2008, 11/06/2008, 11/03/2010, 3/4/2011