Retest Policy
Retesting: A student wishing to retest any part of BRCC’s official placement test for any reason is allowed one retest attempt in each subject area. Students requesting a retest in a particular area will be charged a fee for each area in which a retest is desired. Fees are set annually by the College Trustees. Once the student has paid for the retest, he/she may receive a retest during a regularly scheduled official placement test session. Students will be placed in a course according to the better of the two test scores.

Retest Guidelines
A student may be allowed to retest at his/her discretion in any or all of the subject areas assessed (Sentence Skills, Reading, and Arithmetic and Elementary Algebra) following their initial placement test based on the following guidelines:
1. A student who chooses to retest must complete a Retest Request Form and submit it to an Admissions Counselor.
2. Students must pay $5.00 per test unit. Each area constitutes a unit. An entire test would be four units.
3. Retests must be taken during regularly scheduled placement test dates and times.
4. Retest fees must be paid in advance to the BRCC Cashier. The paid receipt and Retest Request Form must be returned to an Admissions Counselor who will register the student for a retest. An Admissions Counselor may be reached at 828-694-1800.
5. Initial tests and retests include the ACCUPLACER taken at either BRCC campus or through a BRCC high school program (Career and College Promise).
6. Students are allowed one retest per subject area per year. Students may retest after one year at no cost.
7. Students are not allowed to retest to attempt to place out of a developmental class in which they are currently enrolled once the class has started. Test scores expire after three years if developmental coursework has not started.

Purpose of Test
The Pre-Enrollment Placement Test assesses skills in four different academic subject areas; Sentence Skills, Reading, and Arithmetic and Elementary Algebra. An Admissions Counselor will assist in determining which academic subject area test a student will need to take.

The placement test is taken on the computer and is untimed.

Students typically spend approximately two to three hours when taking all four units of the test. You may choose to take the sentence skills and reading at one time and the math at another time. Talk to your Admissions Counselor about making these testing arrangements.

All questions on the placement test are multiple choice.

Preparing for the Pre–Enrollment Placement Test

Preparation is the key to success on the Pre–Enrollment Placement Test. The following are good sources for preparation:

www.accuplacer.org
Free practice test & study guide
www.accuplacer.collegeboard.org
Test taking tips & Sample questions
www.collegeboard.org/nc-sample-questions
www.math-play.com
www.mathguide.com
www.youtube.com (search for Accuplacer)

The following is a list of suggested resources that may help you prepare for the test:

Sentence Skills
- Test taking tips & Sample questions
- Test taking tips & Sample questions

Reading
- Test taking tips & Sample questions
- Test taking tips & Sample questions

Arithmetic
- Test taking tips & Sample questions
- Test taking tips & Sample questions

Elementary Algebra
- Test taking tips & Sample questions
- Test taking tips & Sample questions

Disability Accommodations
Students with a disability (permanent or temporary) that will affect taking the tests under standard conditions, should contact the Director of Disability Services at least two weeks prior to testing. Reasonable accommodations may be provided with appropriate documentation of a disability.

Maggie Faulkner, Director of Disability Services
828-694-1813 or m_faulkner@blueridge.edu

Schedule a Test
Students must have an active admissions application on file before they are allowed to test.

The 7 digit student ID number is required.
Students should schedule a test through an Admissions Counselor in Student Services. There is no cost for a first time placement test.

Day of Test
Report to testing location approximately 10 minutes before your scheduled test time.

BRING A PHOTO ID! Students will not be allowed to test without an up-to-date photo ID.

Please do not bring supplies to the testing site. If testing materials are needed, they will be provided.
Do not bring a calculator or other personal electronic devices, food, beverages, textbooks, notebooks, dictionaries, or other papers. Cell phones should be turned off.

Study and Review Before Test
It is highly recommended that all students prepare for the placement test by reviewing Sentence, Reading, Arithmetic, and Elementary Algebra skills.

The following are good sources for preparation:
www.accuplacer.org
Free practice test & study guide
www.accuplacer.collegeboard.org
Test taking tips & Sample questions
www.collegeboard.org/nc-sample-questions
www.math-play.com
www.mathguide.com
www.youtube.com (search for Accuplacer)

BRCC STAR/Learning Center
Henderson County Campus: 229 Sink Transylvania County Campus: Library
Sentence Skills and Reading Test

The Sentence Skills test consist of two types of questions.

- 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 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.

The Reading Comprehension test consist of two types of questions.

- The first type of question 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.

Math Skills

The Math Skills portion of the test may include two types of math (NC-DAP and Elementary Algebra) depending on program requirements.

- The NC-DAP Part 1 is a arithmetic test which assesses skills for DMA 010—050.

DMA 010 (questions 1-12): Operations with Integers

These questions test conceptual understanding of problems that use integer operations, finding absolute value, evaluating and writing exponents, evaluation square roots, and using the correct order of operations. Geometry applications include perimeter and area of rectangles and squares, angle facts, and the Pythagorean Theorem. This section also includes the use of positive and negative numbers.

DMA 020 (questions 13 - 24): Fractions and Decimals

These questions test understanding of fractions and decimals, basic operations, and the application of these concepts to solve contextual problems. Geometric application problems include polygons, circumference and area of circles, and the concept of pi.

DMA 030 (questions 25-36): Proportions/Ratios/Rates/Percentages

These questions test conceptual understanding and use of ratios, rates, percentages, and proportions to solve application problems. Applications include the use of the U.S. customary and metric units of measurement and the geometry of similar triangles.

DMA 040 (questions 37-48): Expressions, linear Equations, Linear Inequalities

These questions test understanding of graphical and algebraic representations of linear expressions, equations, and inequalities. In addition, they test the ability to simplify linear expressions and to solve linear equations and inequalities.

DMA 050 (questions 49-60): Graphs and Equations of Lines

These questions test your understanding of graphical and algebraic representations of lines. In addition, they test the ability to solve contextual application problems and to interpret basic graphs.

Placement Test Waiver Policy

Students may waive the placement testing requirements under the following conditions:

1. Documentation of acceptable SAT or ACT scores: To be enrolled directly into first-level Curriculum English or Math courses, a student must have a minimum score of 500 on the applicable (Writing and Critical Reading or Mathematics) sections of the SAT, or a minimum of 18 on ACT English and 21 on ACT Reading, or minimum of 22 on ACT Mathematics. SAT and ACT examinations must have been taken within the preceding three years.

2. Results of ACCUPLACER tests taken at another institution within the preceding three years and that meet the BRCC cutoff scores will waive placement testing. Other assessments that can be used to determine college readiness are ASSET, Compass, PLAN, and PSAT. Scores required for college readiness for all assessments may be obtained in the Student Services division.

3. Transfer credit (grade C or better) received from a regionally accredited institution for first-level curriculum English, Math, and will be accepted in lieu of placement testing. Developmental level courses may be considered for transfer credit if taken at a North Carolina Community College. The student must submit an official transcript to receive transfer credit and to officially waive the need for placement testing.

4. For certificate programs without developmental prerequisites, testing may be waived based on a passing score on the NC Competency Test, Test of General Educational Development, or Iowa Test of Basic Skills.

Break down of test questions

Sentence Skills: 22 questions
Reading: 22 questions
NC-DAP Math: 60 questions
Elementary Algebra: 22 questions

Request a copy of Placement Test Scores

- Fill out the Placement Test Score Request form, which can be obtained from Student Services or at www.blueridg.edu.
- Return the signed form to Student Services, please allow at least 24 hours for processing.