

Retest Policy

Re-test Guidelines

A student wishing to retake any part of the Pre-Enrollment Placement Test for any reason is allowed one retest attempt in each developmental module area per semester. Students are encouraged to prepare for a retest by using all available resources including BRCC's College and Career Readiness Center. Students requesting a retest in a particular unit will be charged a fee for each unit in which a retest is desired. Fees are set annually by the College Trustees. Once the student has paid for the retest, he or she may schedule their retest with Student Services staff for a regularly scheduled placement test session. Students will be placed in a course according to the better of the two test scores. Students are not allowed to retest to attempt to place out of a developmental class in which they are currently enrolled.

A student may be allowed to retest at his/her discretion in any or all of the subject areas assessed, following their initial placement test based on the following guidelines:

1. A student who chooses to retest must obtain a Retest Request Form from an Admissions Counselor.
2. Students must pay \$5.00 per test unit. Each area constitutes a unit. This is subject to change without notice.
3. 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.
4. Retests must be taken during regularly scheduled placement test dates and times.
5. Initial tests and retests include the NC-DAP taken at either BRCC campus or through a BRCC high school program (Career and College Promise).
6. 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 five years if developmental coursework has not started.



Preparing for the NC-DAP Pre-Enrollment Placement Test

Student Services

Henderson County Campus—Sink Building:

828-694-1800

Transylvania County Campus:

828-883-2520

or

828-694-1900

Testing Appointment

Student ID# _____

DRE Test Session (Read/ENG)

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

DMA Test Session (Math)

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

MUST BRING PHOTO ID TO TEST SESSIONS

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 both the math and reading/writing test together. You may choose to take the reading and writing test at one time and the math at another time. Talk to your Admissions Counselor about making these testing arrangements.

The math placement test consists of 72 multiple choice questions. The reading and writing test consists of 50 multiple choice questions and one essay.

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.

Judith Harris, Director of Disability Services

828-694-1813 or jk_harris@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.

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 22 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 NC-DAP tests taken at another institution within the preceding three years and that meet the BRCC cutoff scores will waive placement testing.

3. Transfer credit (grade C or better) received from a regionally accredited institution for first-level curriculum English or Math 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.

Math Skills

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

These questions test conceptual understanding of problems that the use of 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 (question 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.

DMA 060 (question 61-72) **Polynomials and Quadratic Applications:**

These questions test understanding of the graphical and algebraic representations of quadratic functions and the ability to find algebraic solutions to quadratic applications. In addition, they test the ability to perform polynomial operations, factor polynomials, and apply factoring to solve polynomial equations.

English and Reading

The North Carolina Community College Diagnostic and Assessment Placement Test (NC-DAP) is made up of three sections: Reading, Revising and Editing Writing and a written essay.

Reading—This section contains 30 questions. Topics covered in this section include:

- Main Idea/Summary
- Supporting Detail/Paraphrase
- Vocabulary
- Organization
- Inference
- Point of View, Fact-Opinion, and Bias (paired passage)
- Purpose/Tone
- Author's Use of Language

Revising and Editing Writing—This section contains 20 questions. Topics covered in this section include:

- Transitions
- Sentence Combining
- Revising Sentences, Inserting Sentences, and Deleting Sentences
- Topic Sentences, Thesis Statements, and Concluding Sentences
- Grammar, mechanics, Sentence Structure, and Word Choice.

Write Placer (Essay) - This section measures your ability to write effectively, which is critical to academic success. The following six characteristics of writing will be considered:

- Purpose and Focus: The extent to which the writer presents information in a unified and coherent manner, clearly addressing the issue.
- Organization and Structure: The extent to which the writer orders and connects ideas.
- Development and Support: The extent to which the writer develops and supports ideas.
- Sentence Variety and Style: The extent to which the writer crafts sentences and paragraphs demonstrating the control of vocabulary, voice, and structure.

WritePlacer/Essay continued:

- Mechanical Conventions: The extent to which the writer expresses ideas using standard English.
- Critical Thinking; The extent to which the writer communicates a point of view and demonstrates reasoned relationships among ideas.

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.

Test preparation resources:

www.collegeboard.org/nc-sample-questions

www.march2success.com

www.khanacademy.org

www.grammarbook.com

www.udacity.com/course/ma004

Free study app:

<https://store.collegeboard.org/sto/freeTextSearch.asp>

BRCC College & Career Readiness Center

Henderson County Campus: 201 Cont. Ed.

Transylvania County Campus: Library

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.blueridge.edu.

Return the signed form to Student Services, please allow at least 24 hours for processing.