

PREPARING FOR THE ASSESSMENT

- ◉ Assessment placement in reading, writing and mathematics is expected of all first-time matriculating students
- ◉ The no-cost assessment process involves multiple instruments, including modules for English reading, English writing and mathematical skills.
- ◉ The English component can involve sentence skills and/or creating a writing sample.
- ◉ Assessed students should speak with a counselor to determine course placements.
- ◉ Multiple assessment measures for entry placement decisions may include, but are not limited to, the following factors: assessment results, prior coursework or experience, goal definition, motivation, academic status, self- assessment and study skills.
- ◉ SJCC also uses English and mathematical SAT, AP, IB and CLEP scores for placement. Please see a counselor for details.

WHO HAS TO TAKE AN ASSESSMENT

- New, first time college students are required to take the Assessment in Math, English or ESL prior to registering for class(s) and after meeting with a counselor or academic advisor.
- All high school students (R-40) and special admit students (R-42) are required to take the Assessment and attend an advisement/counseling session.

WHO IS EXEMPT FROM THE ASSESSMENT

- ◉ Students who have completed required college level English and mathematics skill courses.
- ◉ New students who have earned an associate degree or higher from an accredited institution are not required to take the assessment.
- ◉ A transcript indicating completion of college-level English or Math needed as prerequisites.
- ◉ Life experience that requires basic skills, e.g., a journalist would not have to take a writing exam.
- ◉ Enrolling in Open Curriculum classes ONLY or EMT classes ONLY.
- ◉ Occupational experience that would substitute for a course prerequisite, e.g., years of tune-up experience might exempt you from certain automotive classes.

WHY SHOULD I PREPARE FOR THE ASSESSMENT?

- Assessment is important because that can potentially save you time, energy, and money. You might be required to take fewer courses to reach your ultimate goal.
- Remember, it is not possible for you to “fail” the assessment process. In order to ensure your best performance, here are some steps to prepare before you take your assessment

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- Online Practice: SJCC provides online practice options for reading, writing and math. [COMPASS Reading](#), [COMPASS Writing](#), [COMPASS Math](#) or [English as a Second Language \(ESL\)](#). For additional sources, [click here](#). Knowing what types of questions to expect and how the test works will boost your confidence while taking the assessment.

OTHER TIPS TO PREPARE FOR THE ASSESSMENT

- ◉ Get enough sleep the night before so you are rested and ready to take the test—Assessment is very important! So put yourself in a position to do your best by being well rested.
- ◉ Plan ahead, arriving at least 15 minutes early will help you settle in and feel at ease.
- ◉ Don't feel rushed when taking the SJCC assessment as it is not timed. Please note the assessment is computerized. Making time now will save you time in the future.
- ◉ Take the test seriously—because your performance will impact how many classes you need to take in specific areas, doing your best on the assessment can get you much closer to your goal before you even start taking classes.
- ◉ Be sure you leave with your assessment. Find out what the results mean by bringing them to a counselor. To find out more about our assessment process, test preparation resources, and making your assessment appointment on-line contact the Assessment Center or go to the following website for additional information: <http://www.sjcc.edu/future-students/assessment-center>

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR THE ASSESSMENT

- Assessment schedule dates and times are available through the Assessment Center office (SC-203) or online at <http://www.sjcc.edu/future-students/assessment-center> .
- Your assessment results are available shortly after completing the assessment.

To make an appointment to take the assessment you could call (408)288-3170, or go on-line.