TESTING INFORMATION

Reading Test
- COMPASS Reading Test is a computer adaptive test prepared by ACT
- Students typically get 5 or 6 reading passages, each with associated questions
- Untimed, but not unlimited time
- Scores range from 15 to 99
- The passing score is 70. (Students who took the test prior to Fall 2005 and passed with a 65 are still considered passing.)

Writing Test
- CUNY Assessment Test in Writing (CATW)
- Beginning on October 1, 2010, the CATW replaced the previous writing for both placement and exit testing.
- The CATW requires the student to read a brief passage (typically, 150 to 250 words) and then write an essay about the passage. Instructions about what is to be included in the essay are provided in the test.
- The test is 90 minutes (1 ½ hours).
- Students may use a printed dictionary during the test. Electronic dictionaries or similar devices are not permitted.
- Scoring is done by certified readers at the Bronx Borough Reading Center which is at Bronx Community College
- Each paper is scored on five (5) dimensions, with the scale on each dimension going from 1 (low) to 6 (high). The dimension scores are combined to obtain a weighted total score.
- Passing is a weighted total score of 56
- Readers may flag a test as being potentially or possibly ESL
- The most up-to-date information about the CATW can be found on the CUNY website: http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing.html

Mathematics
- COMPASS Mathematics Test developed by ACT
- The test is computer adaptive
- Untimed, but not unlimited time
- Students are permitted to use the calculators on the computer; scratch paper is also provided (and collected)
- COMPASS Math has four (4) Parts:
    - Pre-Algebra (Part I)
    - Algebra (Part II)
    - College Algebra (Part III)
    - Trigonometry (Part IV, but displayed as Part V on CUNYfirst)
- All students get Parts I and II
- Depending on performance, students are moved into Part III and then Part IV
- Students demonstrate proficiency by passing Part I and Part II, independently.
- As of March 1, 2014, the passing score on Part I is 45 and the passing score on Part II is 40.
- Students needing retesting in only one part, retake only that part.
- COMPASS Math is **NOT** available in Spanish.

Placement Criteria for Mathematics

Program	Part I (Pre-Algebra)	Part II (Algebra)	Pat III (College Algebra)	Part IV (Trigonometry)	Placement	Placement for Exempt Students
All Programs	Below 45	N/A	N/A	N/A	MAT 10	MAT 10 or MAT100 or MAT 115
All Programs	45 or higher	Below 40	N/A	N/A	MAT 20	MAT 20 or MAT 100 or MAT115
Nursing, L.P.N., Radiology Technology	45 or higher	40 or higher	N/A	N/A	MAT 105	
Community Heath	45 or higher	40 or higher	N/A	N/A	MAT 120	
Business Management	45 or higher	40 or higher	Below 40	N/A	MAT 120 or MAT 150	
Public Policy & Administration, Paralegal Studies	45 or higher	40 or higher	Below 40	N/A	MAT 100 or MAT 115	
Liberal Arts A.A.	45 or higher	40 or higher	Below 40	N/A	MAT 100 or MAT 115 or MAT 120 or MAT 150	
Liberal Arts A.S., Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Microcomputers for Business, Accounting	45 or higher	40 or higher	Below 40	N/A	MAT 150	
All Programs (except Accounting AAS, Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Community Health, Liberal Arts AA, Liberal Arts AS, Mechanical Engineering, Nursing RN, Radiologic Technology, Paralegal Studies, Civil Engineering, Business Management, Public Policy & Administration)	45 or higher	40 or higher	Below 40	N/A	MAT 100 or MAT 115 or MAT 120	
All programs (except LPN, Nursing RN or Radiologic Technology)	45 or higher	40 or higher	40 or higher	N/A	MAT 160	
All programs (except LPN, Nursing or Radiologic Technology)	45 or higher	40 or higher	61 or higher	50 or higher	MAT 210	

Note: Students who are exempt from Mathematics are required to take M3. Students who do not demonstrate proficiency in either M1 or M2 or both are permitted to take MAT 100 or MAT 115. Students needing to take any other college-level math course as part of their program must both, M1 or M2, as required.

EXEMPTION CRITERIA FROM CUNY MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT EXAM

You may be exempt from the CUNY Mathematics Test based on the following evidence:

- ❖ SAT 1 Math core of 500 or higher

- ❖ SAT Reasoning Test – Math score of 500 or higher

- ❖ ACT Math score of 21 or higher

- ❖ New York State Regents score/ CUNY Tests

    - ╋ Score of 80 or higher in Integrated Algebra, Geometry, or Algebra 2/Trigonometry and successful completion of the Algebra2/Trigonometry or higher-level course

    - ╋ Score of 75 or higher in one of the following

        - o Math A or B

        - o Sequential II or Sequential III

    - ╋ CUNY Assessment Tests:

        - o Numerical skills/ Pre-algebra (M1) score of 45 or higher

        - o Algebra (M2) score of 40 or higher

- ❖ Bachelor's Degree from an accredited domestic institution in CUNY (D or better in college level course)

- ❖ 45 or more credits from an accredited domestic institution outside CUNY(C or above in college level course)

Placement Criteria for Writing and Reading

Because of the new writing test (the CATW), the placement criteria for reading and writing courses have changed. The table below shows the new placement criteria for reading and writing.

CATW Score (Writing Score)	COMPASS Reading Score	Writing Placement	Reading Placement
56 or higher	70 or higher	ENG 110	No Reading Course Needed
56 or higher	69 or less	No Writing Course Needed	ENG 92*
48 to 55	80 or higher	ENG 94 or ENG 91*	No Reading Course Needed
24 to 40	68 or less	ENG 89 or ENG 91*	ENG 92*
23 or less	30 or less	CLIP	CLIP
55 or less	70 or higher	ENG 91*	No Reading Course Needed
55 or less	69 or less	ENG 91*	ENG 92*

Note: Placement in ESL courses and CLIP are done by the Placement Committee of the Department of Language and Cognition.

Foreign Language Testing:
➢ Spanish Placement Test.
➢ The test is computer adaptive.
➢ The majority of students take about 20 minutes to complete the test
➢ Questions are in both English and Spanish (vocabulary, reading comprehension, grammar)
➢ Scores range from 0 to 950

Foreign Language Placement:
➢ Working with the Modern Languages Unit of the Humanities Department, placement algorithms have been developed to place students into SPA 121, SPA 222, SPA 117
➢ Non-Spanish speaking students are placed into SPA 101, or FRE 101 or ITA 101.

Exemptions from Testing and Placement

➢ SAT scores: students are exempt if they score above 480 on the verbal and/or quantitative parts of the SAT. Students with an exemption in mathematics are still tested for placement purposes on COMPASS Math.
➢ Regent's scores on ELA: students are exempt from Reading and Writing if they score 75 or above on the ELA.
➢ Regent's scores in Math: a score of 75 or higher in one of the following: Math A, Math B, Sequential II, or Sequential III or a score of 80 or higher in Integrated Algebra, or Geometry, or Algebra 2 & Trigonometry **AND** successfully completing Algebra 2 & Trigonometry or higher-level math course.

- Students with a prior B.A. from an **accredited** college or university: determination of this is done by UAPC. Any information provided by the student is sent, by Admissions, to UAPC in order for a determination to be made. However, if the language of instruction at their college was not English, these students can be tested, for placement purposes, in reading and writing.
- Q-exemption: Students who have taken a 3 credit **college level** English course at an **accredited** college or university and received a grade of C or higher are exempt from reading and writing tests. (Note: the course must be an English course. Courses in English as a foreign language are **not** acceptable.)

  Students who have taken a 3 credit college level Mathematics course at an **accredited** college or university and received a grade of C or higher are exempt from the mathematics test. Students receiving the Q exemption in mathematics are still **required** to take the COMPASS Mathematics test for placement purposes only.

  The Q-exemptions are given regardless of whether the student receives transfer credit for the course(s) at Hostos.

Some Pointers About What the Office of Student Assessment Can and Cannot Do:

For CUNY transfer students

- CUNY Assessment Test scores **MUST** be in the CUNY computer system (SKAT). If the test scores are not in SKAT, the scores will transfer over to CUNYfirst.
- Student Assessment is NOT able to enter scores directly into CUNYfirst (as per CUNY regulations). Scores are entered into SKAT and then transfer to CUNYfirst. It takes about 1 hour for a score to migrate from SKAT to CUNYfirst.
- We **cannot** and will **not** accept paper transcripts or forms, even in a sealed envelope.
- It is the student's responsibility to have the sending college enter the information into SKAT. Student Assessment can help, *in an emergency*, if necessary.

Exemptions from testing

- Regents and SAT exemptions: will be accepted and entered if they are on an official transcript or document in the Admissions Office. Exemptions can be entered into CUNYfirst by OSA.
- Bachelor degree (the B exemptions) **MUST** be approved and entered by UAPC on behalf of CUNY.
- Q-exemptions (based on courses) can be entered by Admissions and/or Student Assessment if the Transfer Credit Reviewer certifies that the course is equivalent to a college-level course. Exemptions can be entered into CUNYfirst by OSA.

Some Additional Pointers <u>During</u> Registration:

- Do **NOT** send students to the Assessment Office to obtain a printout of the test scores from CUNYfirst or DegreeWorks.

☞ Faculty and staff have access to all student testing information in CUNYfirst and placements in DegreeWorks.

☞ Do **NOT** advise/register students for a course that they have placed out of. CUNYfirst will not let the student register for those courses because of the complex pre-requisites, co-requisites, and anti-requisites built into the system. If a student cannot register for a course that you think he/she should be able to take, check to make sure the student's testing information has been updated. Also, check the Student Groups to see which group the student belongs to, if any.

☞ Do **NOT** send students to the Assessment Office for retesting because you think (or they think) that they could "do better this time." Students cannot and will not be retested unless they have participated in an approved Hostos intervention of at least 20 hours or taken the appropriate course.

IMPORTANT NOTE regarding the CPE:

☞ The CPE is no longer a requirement for graduation at CUNY. As such it is no longer administered. As appropriate, students should be advised of this.