STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Multiple Measures of Placement

The System Office Program and Student Services staff along with the Presidents Association Program Committee submit the following recommendation to the State Board for consideration:

Delay Mandatory Implementation of Multiple Measures of Placement until Fall 2016.

The request is based on the following:

Programming for automated upload of specific multiple measure high school transcript data is not complete. January meetings with the Department of Public Instruction have solidified that in January 2016, the two systems will have automated process in place that will:

1. Be more sophisticated and provide more data.
2. Allow for data to be sent directly to colleges instead of using NCCCSO as conduit.

Background

NCCCS Policy Using High School Transcript GPA and/or Standardized Test Scores for Placement

The proposed Multiple Measures for Placement Policy establishes a hierarchy of measures that colleges will use to determine students’ readiness for college-level courses:

(1) A recent high school graduate who meets the specified GPA benchmark will be exempt from diagnostic placement testing and will be considered “college-ready” for gateway math and English courses.

(2) If a recent high school graduate does not meet the GPA benchmark, the college will use specified ACT or SAT subject area test scores to determine placement.

(3) If a recent high school graduate does not meet the GPA threshold or have college-ready ACT or SAT scores, the college will administer the diagnostic placement test to determine placement.

(4) If an applicant does not have a recent high school transcript or ACT or SAT scores, the college will administer the diagnostic placement test to determine placement.

Approved by the State Board of Community Colleges on March 21, 2014

SBCC
02/20/2015
## Multiple Measures for Placement Policy

| Unweighted GPA = or >2.6  
Four High School Math Courses* | Student is college ready for any gateway math course and any course that has a DMA prerequisite. Colleges may require students to take a supplemental math lab as a co-requisite, based on college policies. |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Unweighted GPA = or >2.6  
And Four High School Math Courses* | Student is college ready for any English course up to and including English 111 and any course that has a DRE prerequisite. Colleges may require students to take a supplemental English composition lab as a co-requisite, based on college policies. |
| Unweighted GPA <2.6        | College will evaluate subject-area ACT or SAT scores to determine if student is college ready in math and English using the following scores (based on national and state validation studies):  
**English:** ACT Reading 22 OR ACT English 18  
SAT Writing 500 OR SAT Critical Reading 500  
**Math:** ACT Math 22  
SAT Math 500 |
| Unweighted GPA <2.6 and subject-area score(s) below college ready | Student will take subject-area State Board-approved assessment(s) to determine placement. |
| Students without a recent transcript GPA or without ACT or SAT scores | Student will take subject-area State Board-approved assessment(s) to determine placement |

1. This policy is effective upon approval by the State Board of Community Colleges for students enrolling in Fall semester 2013. Colleges have up to two years to implement the policy; all colleges must implement the placement policy by Fall semester 2015.
2. This policy applies to an individual who has an official transcript grade point average (GPA) from a high school that is legally authorized to operate in North Carolina and who graduated from that high school within five years of college enrollment.
3. For students who apply for admission before they graduate from high school, colleges will consider a student’s cumulative GPA at the end of 1st semester of 12th grade or ACT/SAT test scores in determining placement.
4. Colleges will establish local policies regarding using GPA for placement for students with transcripts from out-of-state high schools.
5. Colleges must use State Board-approved cut scores to place students into the appropriate developmental math (DMA) module or reading/English (DRE) course.

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6. Colleges will establish local policies to allow students who are assessed near college ready on the diagnostic assessment to co-enroll in a college course and the appropriate developmental education module/course that is a prerequisite for the college-level course.

7. The North Carolina Community College System will review student placement and success rates within two years of implementation of this policy and will report to the State Board of Community Colleges.

* To be eligible for Multiple Measures for Placement, a high school student must complete four math courses, including Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II (or the Common Core equivalents) and one additional math course. Eligible 4th math courses are listed on the NCCCS document: Eligible 4th High School Math Courses for Multiple Measures Placement. The System Office’s Program Division will update this list as needed in consultation with the Department of Public Instruction.