

January 22, 2014

To: Presidents  
Chief Academic Officers  
Chief Student Development Administrators

From: Sharon Morrissey, NCCCS Executive VP for Programs & Chief Academic Officer

Subject: (1) State Board Approved Cut Score for Math Portion of the North Carolina Diagnostic Assessment and Placement (NC DAP) Test  
(2) Mathematics Placement for Fall Semester 2014

State Board Approved Cut Score for Math

On January 17, 2014, the State Board of Community Colleges approved a revised cut score of seven (7) to indicate proficiency for NC DAP developmental math modules. This score was recommended by a working group of instructional and student developmental administrators, developmental math faculty, and college testing coordinators that has met regularly with System Office staff and College Board to make recommendations for improving the NC DAP. In December, the working group participated in a Standards Verification Process with College Board and developed the recommendation to move the math cut score for DMA assessments from nine (9) to seven (7) in order to more accurately place students into or out of the developmental math modules.

College Board plans to deliver the re-configured math portion of NC DAP to colleges by the end of February. Colleges should plan to use NC DAP for math placement, with a cut score of seven (7), for students who enroll on or after March 15, 2014. A copy of the revised placement policy is attached.

Mathematics Placement for Fall Semester 2014

Mathematics course revisions resulting from the Math CIP also led to course prerequisite changes. A table showing the prerequisite requirements for placement into mathematics courses is attached. To place out of a developmental math module that is a prerequisite for a mathematics course, students must score a minimum of seven (7) on the test associated with that module.

To place directly into MAT 171, students must place out of all modules up to and including DMA 060. Students who do not place out of DMA 060 must enroll in and successfully complete DMA 060, 070, and 080, or enroll in and successfully complete a new condensed version of DMA 060, 070, and 080 that will be available in CCL in March 2014.

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The System Office and College Board are planning a series of regional meetings with testing center directors and admissions officers in mid-February; additional information about the regional meetings will be sent to colleges by separate email.

If you have questions or need additional information, please call or email me or Cynthia Liston ([listonc@nccommunitycolleges.edu](mailto:listonc@nccommunitycolleges.edu)).

c: R. Scott Ralls  
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Cynthia Liston

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Email

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Revised Cut-Score for Math Portion of the North Carolina Diagnostic Assessment and Placement  
(NC DAP) Test

**Request:**

NCCCS requests that the State Board of Community Colleges re-instate the February 2013 Testing Policies for the NC DAP with the following changes:

**Assessment and Placement Testing Policies**

- 1) North Carolina community colleges will implement the North Carolina Diagnostic Assessment and Placement (NC DAP) test to assess students' English, reading and math college readiness skills. The test will be administered to students who do not meet the High School Grade Point Average or ACT/SAT placement criteria included in the Multiple Measures for Placement Policy adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges on February 15, 2013. Any college that opts to delay implementation of the Multiple Measures for Placement Policy as defined in that policy must administer the NC DAP for placement decisions until the Multiple Measures Policy is implemented.
- 2) The NC DAP for mathematics will be implemented ~~Fall Semester 2013~~ by March 15, 2014. Colleges may continue to use Accuplacer, Asset or COMPASS for English/Reading until NC DAP is fully implemented ~~Fall~~ for students enrolling Spring Semester 2015.
- 3) NC DAP scores will be valid for use for placement for five (5) years.
- 4) NC DAP scores are transferable to other colleges with permission of the student.
- 5) Colleges must develop and implement processes to validate student identification for testing.
- 6) Colleges must determine their own retest policies.
- 7) Students taking the NC DAP for developmental math will receive ~~eight (8)~~ separate test results, ~~one for each of the eight developmental math modules~~ for each module. The range of possible scores for each test component is 1 to 12; the cut score that indicates proficiency for each developmental math module component is ~~nine (9)~~ seven (7).
- 8) Students must satisfy all developmental pre- or co-requisites as indicated by test scores.

**Contact:**

Cynthia D. Liston, Associate Vice President  
Policy Research and Special Projects

**Mathematics Course Prerequisites  
(Effective Term Fall 2014)**

| <b>Course Prefix/#</b> | <b>Course Title</b>                   | <b>Revised Courses<br/>Summary of Revision</b>  |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| MAT 110                | Mathematical Measurement and Literacy | Prerequisites: DMA 010, DMA 020, and DMA 030  |
| MAT 121                | Algebra/Trigonometry I                | Prerequisites: DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, DMA 050, and DMA 060                                 |
| MAT 122                | Algebra/Trigonometry II               | Prerequisite: MAT 121   |
| MAT 141                | Mathematical Concepts I               | Prerequisites: [DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, and DMA 040] or MAT 121 or MAT 171                           |
| MAT 143                | Quantitative Literacy                 | Prerequisites: DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, DMA 050, and DRE 098                                 |
| MAT 152                | Statistical Methods I                 | Prerequisites: DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, DMA 050, and DRE 098                                 |
| MAT 167                | Discrete Mathematics                  | Prerequisites: MAT 121 or MAT 171   |
| MAT 171                | Precalculus Algebra                   | Prerequisites: MAT 121 or [DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, DMA 050, DMA 060, DMA 070, and DMA 080*] |
| MAT 172                | Precalculus Trigonometry              | Prerequisite: MAT 171   |
| MAT 252                | Statistical Methods II                | Prerequisites: [MAT 152 and MAT 121] or [MAT 152 and MAT 171]   |
| MAT 263                | Brief Calculus                        | Prerequisite: MAT 171   |
| MAT 271                | Calculus I                            | Prerequisite: MAT 172   |
| MAT 272                | Calculus II                           | Prerequisite: MAT 271   |
| MAT 273                | Calculus III                          | Prerequisite: MAT 272   |
| MAT 280                | Linear Algebra                        | Prerequisite: MAT 271   |
| MAT 285                | Differential Equations                | Prerequisite: MAT 272   |

\*Students who intend to enroll in MAT 171 must successfully place out of all modules up to and including DMA 060 to place directly into MAT 171. Students who do not place out of DMA 060 have two options:

- Enroll in and successfully complete DMA modules 060, 070, and 080.
- Enroll in and successfully complete a new condensed version of DMA 060, 070, and 080 that will be available in CCL in March 2014.