Accuplacer Information

What is Accuplacer?
Accuplacer is a placement test for incoming college students developed by the College Board. This board developed the SAT, GRE, AP, CLEP and TOEFL tests. Western State Colorado University uses the Accuplacer for our assessment/placement exams.

How many times can the Accuplacer exam be taken? How much does Accuplacer cost?
Students can take each of the Accuplacer exams one time per semester. Each Accuplacer exam cost $15.

Is there a time limit?
Accuplacer tests are untimed. Generally, a test will take approximately 45 minutes.

What if I need special accommodations?
Students with disabilities who need testing accommodations other than extended time should contact the Academic Resource Center to make appropriate arrangements. 970-943-7056

Where do I take Accuplacer?
WSCU offers group Accuplacer testing during New Student Orientation. During the school year individual Accuplacer tests can be scheduled at the Academic Resource Center located in Taylor Hall 302. Call 970-943-7056 to schedule a test.

How can I study for the test?
The Academic Resource Center (Taylor Hall 302) has study guides for Elementary Algebra, College-level Math, Reading and Sentence Skills.
There are Student Study Guides found at: http://media.collegeboard.com/digitalServices/pdf/accuplacer/accuplacer-sample-questions-for-students.pdf and Studyguidezone.com

Descriptions of Exams

-Reading Comprehension Test: consists of 20 multiple choice questions which involve identifying the main and secondary ideas in a reading passage, applying the information, and drawing inferences based on the context of the reading passage. A second type of question involves answering questions about the relationship of two sentences. A score of 80 or above means you have demonstrated entry level ability in Reading.

-Sentence Skills Test: consists of 20 multiple choice questions. The first type is sentence correction questions in which the student selects an appropriate word or phrase to substitute for an underlined sentence. The second type, construction shift questions, requires that a sentence be rewritten according to the criteria shown while maintaining essentially the same meanings as the original sentence. A score of 95 or above means you have demonstrated entry level ability in Writing.

-Elementary Algebra Test: consists of 12 questions of three different types. The first involves operations with integers and rational numbers, the second type involves operations with algebraic expressions, and the third type involves the solution of equations, inequalities, and work problems. A score of 85 or above means you have demonstrated entry level ability in Math.

-College-Level Math Test: consists of 20 questions assessing proficiency in intermediate algebra through Pre-calculus. Test categories include algebraic operations, the solution of equations and inequalities, coordinate geometry, applications and other algebra topics (complex numbers, series and sequences, determinants, permutations and combinations, factorials, and word problems), functions (polynomial, algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic), and trigonometry. A score of 65 or above means you have demonstrated prerequisites for Math 141 Precalculus. A score of 85 or above means you have demonstrated prerequisites for Math 213 Probability and Statistics Math. A score of 95 or above means you have demonstrated prerequisites for Math 151 Calculus.