

Frequently Asked Questions

- Do I need to take the tests?* Yes. If you have never attended college, or attended while in high school, and plan to earn an Associate Degree, transfer to a four-year college, or to take English, math, or ESL courses, you must be assessed.
- Are there exemptions?* Yes. You are not required to take the assessment tests if you have acceptable scores on certain national exams such as AP or SAT tests, or if you have taken certain math or English courses at another college. For a complete list of specific exemptions, see [Alternatives to Testing](#) at this site. Contact the Assessment Office, Room SS-251, (805) 730-4149 for more information.
- Can I take English, math or E.S.L. classes without testing?* Enrollment in English 60 through English 111, Math 1 through Math 150, Psychology 150 and all ESL Reading, Writing and Grammar classes requires assessment.
- How do I take my Assessment tests if I don't live in Santa Barbara?* *You will need to come to the College to test.* Information about how to plan for completing Assessment/Orientation/Registration in the fewest trips is listed under [Out-of-Area Students](#) at this site.
- Can I prepare for the tests?* Yes. Practice materials are on the website. At the assessment menu, you will also find a test preparation form called '[REAP](#)'. Please download it, complete it and bring it to testing. More extensive math worksheets are available for purchase in the Campus Bookstore (805) 730-3047.
- How long are the tests?* Allow 2 hours for the English test and 1-2 hours for the math test.
- Which math test should I take?* Read [Preparing For Assessment](#), located on this site. Be sure to work the problems on the sample tests.
- When should I take the test(s)?* Test as soon as possible. See [Testing Schedule for the semester you plan to attend.](#) See also [Calendar](#).
- Do I need to make an appointment?* For paper and pencil testing, make an appointment at this website. A ticket will be sent to you as confirmation of your date. Bring the ticket to the test. **Appointments are not required for computerized testing.** Come to the Assessment Center during walk-in hours. Allow enough time to complete your test(s) prior to closing.
- What if I need accommodation for disability?* If you need extended time or another accommodation for disability, contact the Disabilities Specialists, Room SS-160 (805) 730-4164 to determine eligibility for alternative testing arrangements www.sbcc.edu/dsps.
Note: You may only take the Assessment test once per semester.