Compass Placement Testing (CPT)

What is Compass Placement Testing and who needs to take it?

Compass Placement Testing (CPT) is a set of untimed, multiple choice, computer-based placement tests in writing, reading, and mathematics.

CPT is offered to admitted students who have not scored a 19 or higher on the ACT in English, Reading, or Math (or 470 SAT Writing / 470 SAT Reading / 460 SAT Math). CPT is mandatory for all non-traditional students (first-time freshmen age 21 and older) who have not provided UCA with ACT or SAT scores.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL COMPASS PLACEMENT TESTING MUST BE COMPLETED, AND SCORES RECEIVED BY UCA, AT LEAST TEN (10) DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF YOUR SCHEDULED ORIENTATION (S.O.A.R.) PROGRAM

What are the best options for completing my Compass Placement Testing?

Best "local" option: If you live close to UCA, simply call the Office of Testing and schedule an appointment to complete testing at least ten (10) days before the date of your scheduled orientation (S.O.A.R.) program.

Best "distance" option: If you live too far away to test at UCA, call the Office of Testing in order to arrange a remote testing session at a campus near you. As a reminder, your Compass Placement Testing results must be received by UCA at least ten (10) days before the date of your scheduled orientation (S.O.A.R.) program.

With either option, your first step is to call the UCA Office of Testing at (501) 450-3209

What do I need to know if I plan to take my Compass Placement Testing (CPT) at UCA?

Scheduling

- Prior to June 1st - you must call (501) 450-3209 to schedule an individual appointment
- June 1st through July 31st - you may walk in to begin testing anytime from 8am – 2pm (M-F)
- August 1st and beyond - you must call (501) 450-3209 to schedule an individual appointment

Cost

- Each individual Compass test costs $5, payable only by cash or check at the time of testing

Location

- Torreyson West 315 (visit www.uca.edu/map for a UCA campus map)

ID requirements

- Current government issued photo ID (ex. driver's license, passport)
- Current academic year school district issued photo ID
- Current high school yearbook containing individual student photo (photocopies not accepted)

Calculator

- You may bring your own calculator, but are responsible for knowing whether it is permitted (visit www.actstudent.org/faq/answers/calculator.html to see a list of prohibited calculators)

Where do I ask that my Compass scores be sent if I've already taken them elsewhere?

Mail	Fax	Email
Office of Testing University of Central Arkansas 201 Donaghey Avenue Torreyson West 315 Conway, AR 72035	(501) 450-3259	bcorbin@uca.edu

Please keep in mind that we can only accept official Compass score reports that are less than two years old and are mailed, faxed, or emailed directly from the Testing Center where the exam was taken. These scores must be received by UCA at least ten (10) days before the date of your scheduled orientation (S.O.A.R.) program.

What Compass scores do I need in order to be exempt from transitional coursework?

Compass Reading
0-82 = Transitional Reading (UNIV 1301)
83+ = No transitional reading required

Compass Writing
0-79 = Transitional Writing (UNIV 1300)
80+ = No transitional writing required

Compass Math (scores within the algebra section are used to determine math placement)
0-20 = Beginning Algebra (UNIV1330)
21-40 = Intermediate Algebra (UNIV 1340)
41+ = College Algebra (MATH 1390)

Are there websites that can help me prepare for the Compass exam?

Compass Reading
- https://web.gsc.edu/fs/mhorton/lsenglish/compasswriting.htm ("Practice Test 3" only)
- http://www.act.org/compass/sample/reading.html

Compass Writing
- https://web.gsc.edu/fs/mhorton/lsenglish/compasswriting.htm
- http://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises
- http://www.act.org/compass/sample/writing.html

Compass Math
- http://interactmath.com/home.aspx (select from "Tobey" beginning & intermediate algebra series)
- http://www.brazosport.edu/sites/CurrentStudents/TransitionalEducation/Study%20Skills/AlgebraLearningModules.aspx
- http://www.act.org/compass/sample/math.html

Additional questions?

Please call the UCA Testing Office at (501) 450-3209 or visit our website at www.uca.edu/testing