

# University Policies

<b>Policy Name:</b> English 101 Placement (English Placement)	<b>Effective Date:</b>
<b>Custodian of Policy:</b> Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs	<b>Last Review:</b> September 2009
	<b>Next Review:</b> September 2018

## INFORMAL REVIEW

### Policy

Students who are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs at MSU,M and who want to enroll in English 101 must demonstrate readiness to succeed in English 101 through one of the following means:

an ACT English score of 18 or above,

an SAT writing score of 440 or above,

or, if the student is an international student, a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 575 or above (paper-based), 232 or above (computer-based), 89 or above (web-based), or an academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of 6.5 or above.

#### ACT/SAT

Students with ACT English scores below 18, students with SAT writing scores below 440, or students admitted to the university without an ACT English score or SAT writing score must take the Accuplacer Reading Comprehension Test and pass it with a score of 78 or higher to enroll in English 101.

If his or her Accuplacer Reading Comprehension test score is below 78, the student must pass either English 100 or English 206 or English 207 with a grade of C or better before enrolling in English 101.

#### TOEFL/IELTS

International students with TOEFL scores below 575 (paper-based), below 232 (computer-based), below 89 (web-based), or with an academic IELTS scores below 6.5 must take both the Accuplacer ESL Reading Test and the Accuplacer WritePlacer.

International students with an Accuplacer Writeplacer score of 6 can enroll in English 101, and students with both an Accuplacer ESL Reading test score of 110 or higher and an Accuplacer WritePlacer score of 4 or 5 can also enroll in English 101.

International students with either (1) an Accuplacer WritePlacer score below 4 or (2) an Accuplacer ESL Reading test score below 110 and an Accuplacer WritePlacer score of 4 or 5 must pass either English 100 or English 206 or English 207 with a grade of C before enrolling in English 101.

## **Procedures**

### Exemptions

Students may be exempted from taking the Accuplacer Reading Comprehension test based on documentation of

1. passing Accuplacer Reading Comprehension test scores taken at any college or university within the last three calendar years;
2. having an ACT English score of 17 and an ACT Writing Test Subscore between 8 and 12;
3. having an AP English Language and Composition test score of 3;
4. having a CLEP English composition and literature test score of 50 or above;
5. having a grade of "C" or higher in a postsecondary non-developmental English course in which writing was a focus of instruction.

Students may be exempted from taking the Accuplacer ESL Reading test or the Accuplacer WritePlacer based on documentation of

1. passing Accuplacer ESL Reading test or Accuplacer WritePlacer scores taken at any college or university within the last three calendar years;

Students enrolled in courses at the university before the effective date of the policy are exempted from the policy.

### Re-test

Students make take any of the Accuplacer tests a second time no sooner than two weeks after the first test.

### Appeal Process

Students not meeting the requirement for enrollment in English 101 stated above may request an exception to this policy. The request must be made in writing to the chair of the English department, and must include evidence that demonstrates readiness for college composition. Examples of such evidence include a validated portfolio of work in composition.

## **Rationale**

The purpose of this policy is to improve students' success in college writing by assessing their readiness for English 101 and by providing them with further preparation when necessary. Minnesota State University, Mankato's policy is based on Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU)'s Board Procedure 3.3.1, Assessment for Course Placement.