

 [Download or Print Page](#)

Student Services

[Assessment Services](#)

[Bookstore](#)

[CalWORKs Program](#)

[CARE Program/EOPS](#)

[Career Services](#)

[Child Development Center](#)

[Counseling Services](#)

[Disability Resource Center \(DRC\)](#)

[Distance Education](#)

[Extended Opportunity Programs and Services \(EOPS\)/CARE](#)

[Financial Aid/Scholarships](#)

[Types of Financial Aid](#)

[Food Service](#)

[Health Services](#)

[International Education Program](#)

[Learning Communities](#)

[Multicultural & DREAM Center](#)

[Personal Counseling and Wellness Services](#)

[Transcript Evaluation Service](#)

[Transfer Services](#)

[Veterans Services](#)

[Center for Student Life and Leadership Development](#)

[Year One Promise](#)

Assessment Services

College of San Mateo Assessment Services conducts the college assessment program which includes English, Reading, ESL, and Mathematics assessment components. These assessments are intended to measure skills which research has shown to be closely related to academic success. These multiple measurements represent student strengths and capabilities.

Using Alternate Assessment/Placement Test Results to Meet Associate Degree Competency Requirements in English and/or Mathematics

Course placement results may be used to meet English and/or mathematics competency requirements for the associate degree. Course placement results, for this purpose, remain valid even if there is a break in attendance. However, course placement results must meet the associate degree competency requirements of the catalog year in which the degree is based.

Alternate Assessment/Placement Testing

Assessment Services conducts the college assessment program which includes English, Reading, ESL, and Mathematics assessment components. There is no charge for placement testing. Assessment Services is offered year round by appointment to students who have completed a College of San Mateo Admissions Application, have a CSM student identification number, present an approved photo identification (e.g., driver's license, passport, credit card with photo), and plan to attend College of San Mateo. Course placement results are posted on students' Web SMART accounts under Student Records/Placement Test Results.

Alternate Assessment/Placement tests are required for all students who plan to enroll at College of San Mateo to complete a vocational certificate, an associate degree, transfer to a university, or for students who are undecided but considering one of the aforementioned goals. Also, Alternate Assessment/Placement tests are required to enroll in English, ESL, reading, and mathematics, and other courses that have math or English prerequisites.

These assessments are designed to measure current academic readiness in English, reading, and mathematics. Students are advised to work with counselors to discuss course placement results, educational goals, and other relevant information so that counselors can assist students to develop student educational plans. For more information, visit the [Assessment Services website](#). (Building 10, Room 370, 574-6175)

Placement Test Preparation

It is strongly recommended to review sample test questions prior to taking the placement test. Often subject review will result in stronger test results. Sample test questions can be viewed on the [Assessment Services website](#).

Placement Test Retest Policy

English/reading, ESL, mathematics: If a student does not accept the placement results, he/she may retake the placement test one additional time within a two year period.

Special Accommodations for Placement Tests

Assessment Services is able to provide extended test time to students who request it, and is wheelchair accessible. Students requiring placement tests in alternate formats, must contact the Disability Resource Center (College Center Building 10, Room 120, 574-6438/6433).

Using English and Math Alternate Assessment Form/Prerequisite Equivalency Form

Placement tests may not be necessary for students who have successfully completed English and/or mathematics coursework at another accredited college or university in the United States. Alternate assessment may be used for students who have successful high school CAASPP scores, AP or IBHL results, or have successfully completed specific high school course work. For more information about assessment and prerequisites and corequisites, a list of frequently asked questions and answers, course prerequisite equivalency forms, and alternate assessment forms visit the [Assessment Services](#) and the [Prerequisites, Corequisites and Recommended Preparation](#) websites.