



# **Rule Workshop: 6A-10.0315 Common Placement Testing and Instruction**

**Florida Department of Education, Division of Florida Colleges**  
**November 30, 2021**



# Webinar Logistics

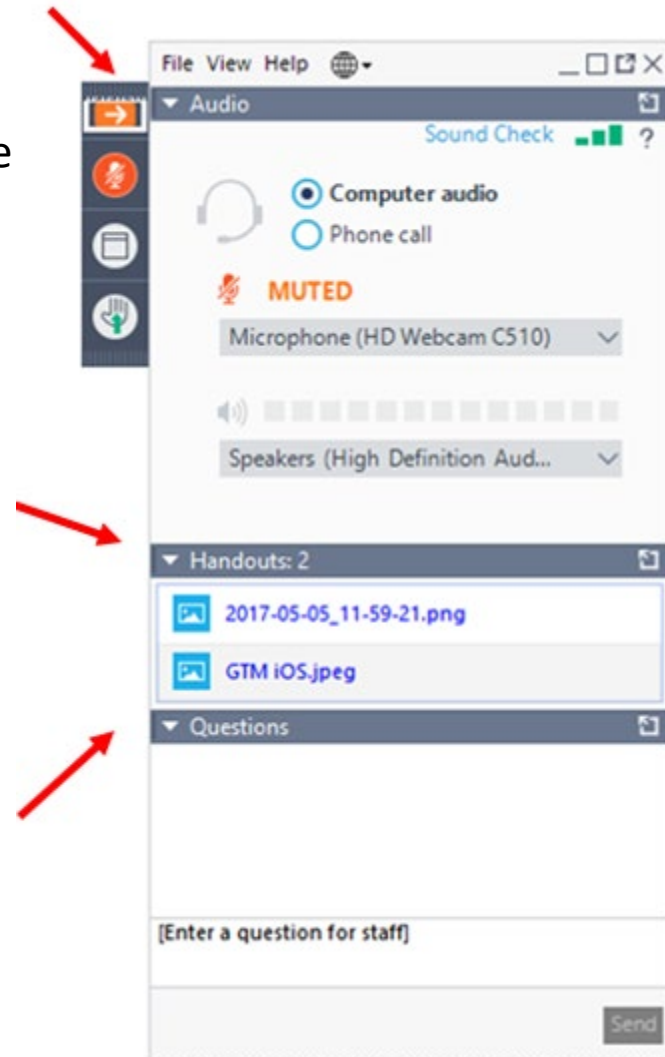
Participants will be on mute for the duration of the webinar.

Material from today's webinar:

In the handouts area, you will find a copy of today's presentation, the draft rule language, and the draft local alternative methods application form.

How to submit questions:

To submit questions during the webinar, please utilize the Questions function. During the Q&A portion of the webinar, questions will be addressed.



## Agenda

- Background to Alternative Methods
- Summary and Effect of Proposed Rule
- Next Steps
- Q & A
- Public Comment

## Alternative Methods Background

- Emergency Order (2020-EO-02)
- The voluntary ad hoc data collection
- Specific statutes amended by Senate Bill 366 (SB 366)
- Alt Methods Recommendations survey and overview of results

## Alternative Methods (SB 366)

- *College Credit Admissions Counseling:* SB 366 amends s. 1007.263, F.S., to add alternative methods for measuring achievement in college-level computation and communication for admissions counseling in college credit programs. The bill specifies that career education program advising must measure achievement in basic skills pursuant to s. 1004.91, F.S.
- *College Credit Dual Enrollment Eligibility:* SB 366 amends s. 1007.271, F.S., revising eligibility requirements to specify that students must demonstrate achievement in college-level communication and computation as provided in s. 1008.30, F.S. In effect, this revision allows approved alternative methods to be used in eligibility determinations. The usage of alternative methods includes public, private and home education students.
- *Developmental Education and Meta-Majors:* SB 366 amends s. 1008.30, F.S., authorizing Florida College System (FCS) institutions to use alternative methods to assess student readiness as it relates to meta-majors and developmental education placement. Also related to developmental education, SB 366 eliminates annual developmental education accountability reporting requirements.

# Proposed Rule Amendment

## 06A-10.0315 Common Placement Testing and Instruction Demonstration of Readiness for College-Level Communication and Computation.

(1) The purpose of this rule is to establish methods for assessing communication and computation skills and the minimum standards the test scores a student must achieve to demonstrate readiness to perform college-level work pursuant to section 1008.30, F.S. A student who demonstrates readiness by achieving or exceeding standard test scores established herein and enrolls in a Florida College System institution within two (2) years after achieving such scores shall not be required to retest or complete developmental education at a Florida College System institution. “Developmental education” prepares students for college level reading, writing and mathematics courses. A student admitted to a Florida College System institution who is assessed for readiness for college-level computation and communication under paragraphs (a) or (b) and whose assessment results indicate whose score on a common placement test indicates a need for developmental education must be advised of all the developmental education options offered at the institution and, after advisement, shall be allowed to enroll in the developmental education option of his or her choice. ~~Colleges must allow students to enroll in developmental education courses.~~

(a) Exempt students. Further in accordance with section 1008.30, F.S., a student who entered 9th grade in a Florida public school in the 2003-2004 school year, or any year thereafter, and earned a Florida standard high school diploma or a student who is serving as an active duty member of any branch of the United States Armed Services shall not be required to be assessed for readiness for college-level work in communication and computation ~~take a common placement test~~ and shall be considered exempt. Exempt students shall not be required to enroll in developmental education instruction in a Florida College System institution. However, an exempt student may opt to be assessed and to enroll in developmental education, and the college shall provide such assessment and courses upon the student’s request.

(b) Non-exempt students. Non-exempt students who have not earned credit for college level coursework for reading, writing, and mathematics shall be assessed for readiness for college-level work ~~tested for proficiency~~ prior to the completion of initial registration. Non-exempt students whose assessment results indicate a need for developmental education ~~earning scores less than those listed below~~ shall enroll in developmental education in the area of the deficiency.



# Proposed Rule Amendment (continued)

(2) Common placement tests. Exempt and non-exempt students meeting or exceeding standard scores on any of the following tests, using the highest score in the case of multiple scores, may be enrolled in college level courses. Institutions shall accept scores on the public high school transcript as an official record of scores in addition to official score reports from the issuing entity listed in this subsection. A student who demonstrates readiness by achieving or exceeding standard test scores established herein and enrolls in a Florida College System institution within two (2) years after achieving such scores shall not be required to retest or complete developmental education at a Florida College System institution.

Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT)	Standard Score
Reading	106
Writing	103
Mathematics	114
ACCUPLACER, The College Board	
Through January 2020	
Reading Comprehension	83
Sentence Skills	83
Elementary Algebra	72
Next-Generation ACCUPLACER, The College Board	
Since September 2019	
Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics (QAS)	242
Reading	245
Writing	245
SAT, The College Board	
Since March 1, 2016	
Reading Test	24
Writing and Language Test	25
Math Test	24
ACT with Writing or ACT, Inc.	
Reading	19
English	17
Mathematics	19

# Proposed Rule Amendment (continued)

(3) Alternative methods to common placement tests. Pursuant to section 1008.30, F.S., Florida College System institutions may use alternative methods in lieu of the common placement tests under subsection (2) to assess student readiness for college-level work in communication and computation. Institutions shall recognize scores and grades on alternative methods specified in paragraphs (a) through (c) as valid for placement purposes for a minimum of two years.

(a) Tests and assessments. A score that meets or exceeds the standard score on any one of the assessments shall be accepted as demonstration of readiness for college-level work. Institutions shall accept scores on the public high school transcript in addition to official score reports from the issuing entity listed in this subsection as an official record.

<u>PSAT/NMSQT (PSAT 10), The College Board</u>	<u>Standard Score</u>
<u>Reading Test</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>Writing and Language Test</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>Mathematics Test</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>PreACT®</u>	
<u>Reading</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>English</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>Mathematics</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>General Educational Development (GED®) Test</u>	
<u>Reasoning Through Language Arts</u>	<u>165</u>
<u>Mathematical Reasoning</u>	<u>165</u>
<u>Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC™)</u>	
<u>Language Arts Reading</u>	<u>580</u>
<u>Language Arts Writing</u>	<u>560 and 6 on Essay</u>
<u>Mathematics</u>	<u>560</u>
<u>High School Equivalency Test (HiSET®)</u>	
<u>Language Arts Reading</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Language Arts Writing</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Mathematics</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>End-of-Course Assessments</u>	
<u>Algebra 1 End-of-Course Assessment</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Geometry End-of-Course Assessment</u>	<u>4</u>



# Proposed Rule Amendment (continued)

(b) Performance in high school coursework. Any student who has an unweighted high school GPA of 3.0 and achieves a grade of “B” or better in the courses listed below at a Florida public secondary school shall have demonstrated readiness for college-level work. Institutions shall accept courses and grades on the public high school transcript as an official record.

Algebra 1/Algebra 1 Honors

Algebra 2/Algebra 2 Honors

Pre-Calculus

Calculus

Geometry

Probability and Statistics

Math for College Algebra

Math for College Statistics

Math for College Liberal Arts

English 4/English 4 Honors

(c) Credit-by-examination. Students achieving passing scores and receiving credit for college-level communication or computation pursuant to the credit-by-examination equivalency list in Rule 6A-10.024 shall have previously demonstrated readiness for college-level coursework.

(d) Local placement methods for developmental education. A Florida College System institution seeking consideration of approval must complete and submit the Application to Use Local Method to Determine College Readiness for Developmental Education, Form No. ALTPLACE-01 (URL) which is hereby incorporated by reference in this rule effective March 2022. A copy of the form may be found at <https://www.fldoe.org/schools/higher-ed/fl-college-system/academic-student-affairs/> or by writing to the Division at 325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1244, Tallahassee, Florida 32399.

~~(3) Students whose first language is not English may be placed in developmental education prior to the required common placement testing, if such instruction is otherwise demonstrated as being necessary. Such students shall require common placement testing.~~

(4) Student records and test scores are confidential education records under Section 1002.221, F.S. Institutions are required to comply with Section 1002.221, F.S., in maintaining confidentiality of these records.

~~(5) Florida College System institutions may establish local policies and procedures governing the use of assessments and alternative methods for placement. The Commissioner shall report to the State Board of Education each year the results of common placement testing.~~

## **Form No. ALTPLACE-01**

# **Local Method to Determine College Readiness for Developmental Education**

For developmental education placement, in addition to other standardized assessments and high school course recommendations, FCS institutions may use local placement methods that are reliable and valid. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- diagnostic tests
- student guided self-placement
- institution-derived assessment tools
- surveys with decision trees
- automated processes based on algorithms
- one-on-one meetings with advisors

**APPLICATION TO USE LOCAL METHOD TO DETERMINE  
COLLEGE READINESS FOR DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION  
Form No. ALTPLACE-01**

**BACKGROUND**

Section (s.) 1008.30, Florida Statutes (F.S.) requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to develop and implement a common placement test for the purpose of assessing the basic communication and computation skills of degree-seeking students. The SBE has identified four common placement tests via Rule 6A-10.0315, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). Through this rule, SBE establishes the test scores a student must achieve to demonstrate readiness to perform college-level work.

During the 2021 legislative session, Senate Bill (SB) 366 amended Florida Statutes to expand the mechanisms institutions may use to assess readiness for college-level work. As of March 2022, Florida College System (FCS) institutions may use alternative methods in lieu of a common placement test to assess student readiness for college-level work in communication and computation. In short, alternative methods provide more options for institutions when determining how to assess student readiness for college-level work. FCS institutions may:

- 1) Continue to use approved common placement tests. The four common placement tests approved in rule may continue to be used: Florida Postsecondary Education Readiness Test, ACCUPLACER, SAT and ACT. SB 366 did not eliminate placement tests; rather, it provided more options for institutions to use when determining readiness.
- 2) Use an approved alternative method identified in Rule 6A-10.0315, F.A.C., which fall into four categories:
  - a) Other standardized assessments (e.g., HiSET®, TASC™, PSAT).
  - b) A 3.0 unweighted high school GPA in conjunction with grades in high school mathematics or English courses whose standards align with postsecondary readiness standards.
  - c) Credits earned for college-level coursework via the credit-by-examination equivalency list.
  - d) Local placement methods that are reliable and valid (for developmental education placement only). Examples of local placement methods include, but are not limited to diagnostic tests, student guided self-placement, institution-derived assessment tools for English and mathematics, surveys with decision trees, automated processes based on algorithms, and one-on-one meetings with advisors. Institutions that wish to use a local placement method as a measure of college readiness will need to seek approval by the Division of Florida Colleges, Florida Department of Education. These methods may only be used for developmental education purposes.

*Note: Local methods that are used for course-level placement do not require department approval.*

# Form No. ALTPLACE-01, continued

## INSTRUCTIONS

This Application to Use Local Method to Determine College Readiness for Developmental Education, Form No. ALTPLACE-01, is to be completed by each Florida College System institution seeking approval to use a local placement method to assess student readiness to perform college-level work pursuant to s. 1008.30, F.S. This form must be completed for each local placement method requested; do not combine multiple methods into one form.

When submitting the application, the institution must attach supporting documentation containing quantitative and qualitative data. Institutions should treat the documentation as an opportunity to share the most compelling evidence of validity and reliability of the local placement method. The documentation should be a collection of recent (within the last 3-5 years), relevant and well-labeled files that contain tables, figures or other material. The supporting documentation must be attached as a single Word or PDF document; Excel files will not be accepted.

This complete application and supporting documentation must be submitted via email to [FCSInfo@fldoe.org](mailto:FCSInfo@fldoe.org). For Spring Term use, the application must be submitted by the preceding October 15. For Summer Term use, the application must be submitted by the preceding February 15. For Fall Term use, the application must be submitted by the preceding May 15. Earlier submissions are encouraged and will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

The Division of Florida Colleges (Division) will provide the institution with a written decision no later than (45) days upon receipt of a complete submission.

- **Full approval:** The application and supporting documentation were sufficient in demonstrating the local placement method is a valid and reliable placement tool. The institution is fully approved to use the local placement method for developmental education placement.
- **Provisional approval:** The application and supporting documentation demonstrated the local placement method may be a valid and reliable placement tool, but up-front information is limited. Institution has approval to use the local placement method for a period of three terms, during which time the institution will be required to collect data on the efficacy of the method. At the conclusion of the provisional period, the institution will be required to resubmit their application and supporting documentation to the Division for consideration.
- **Denial:** The application and supporting documentation did not demonstrate the local placement method may be a valid and reliable placement tool. If the application is denied, the institution will receive written notification identifying the specific areas of deficiency. The institution may resubmit their application at a later date once any outstanding issues are resolved.

# Form No. ALTPLACE-01, continued

## INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

**1. College name**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**2. Contact information**

Name	Click or tap here to enter text.
Title	Click or tap here to enter text.
Email Address	Click or tap here to enter text.

**3. Please indicate the status of your application.**

- ☐ **Initial.** This is the first time my institution has submitted this method for consideration.
- ☐ **Resubmission- Provisional Seeking Full Approval.** My institution received provisional approval for this method; this is a resubmission for full approval.
- ☐ **Resubmission- Previously Denied.** My institution has previously submitted this method for consideration, but the request was denied. My institution addressed the deficiencies and is resubmitting this method for consideration.

## ABOUT THE METHOD

**4. What is the subject area the local placement method? Select one.**

- ☐ Computation
- ☐ Communication – Reading
- ☐ Communication – Writing
- ☐ Communication – Combined Reading/Writing

**5. What is the name of the local placement method?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**6. Provide a narrative that describes the local placement method.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**7. Provide a narrative explaining how this method was developed.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

# Form No. ALTPLACE-01, continued

## AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

**8. Is there a cost to the student for using this method?**

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes If "Yes," please specify: Click or tap here to enter text.

**9. Is there a cost to the institution for using this method?**

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes If "Yes," please specify: Click or tap here to enter text.

**10. Is the method available in other languages for non-native English speakers?**

- ☐ No  
☐ Yes If "Yes," please specify: Click or tap here to enter text.

**11. What is the availability of the method for entering students? (e.g., it is available to all students, it is only available to Florida high school graduates, etc.)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**12. What accommodations are available to students with disabilities?**

Click or tap here to enter text.



# Form No. ALTPLACE-01, continued

## EVIDENCE

- 13. If applicable, provide a narrative explaining how your institution has previously used the method (e.g., as a multiple measure, during COVID-19 emergency order waiver of common placement test, for course-level placement, etc.).**

Click or tap here to enter text.

- 14. What is the minimum standard by which the alternative method should be measured? In other words, how will a student's readiness be determined?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

- 15. How was the minimum standard determined?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

- 16. Provide a narrative summarizing the evidence (quantitative and qualitative data) that this method is an accurate and reliable measure of college readiness. (e.g., learning outcomes alignment, research studies, evidence from your institution, etc.). This narrative should summarize all the key takeaways from the supporting documentation provided in response to question 17.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

- 17. Provide a table of contents for the supporting documentation provided as evidence in the separate attachment. Add additional rows as needed.**

When submitting the application, the institution must attach supporting documentation that contains quantitative and qualitative data. Institutions should treat the documentation as an opportunity to share the most compelling evidence of validity and reliability of the local placement method. The documentation should be a collection of recent (within the last 3-5 years), relevant and well-labeled files that contain tables, figures or other material. The supporting documentation must be attached as a single Word or PDF document; Excel files will not be accepted.

Page Number(s)	Documentation Name
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

## Timeline for Implementation and Next Steps

- At the February 09, 2022, it is anticipated that the State Board of Education will adopt rules to develop and implement alternative methods for assessing the basic communication and computation skills.
- Once the rule is effective, FDOE will provide additional technical assistance and guidance.
- After that point, FCS institutions may need to update existing policies and/or create new policies related to admissions counseling, dual enrollment eligibility, developmental education placement and meta-major advising.

## Links to Resources

- [DFC Memorandum: Recommendations for Alternative Methods to Assess College Readiness and Survey Template](#) (PDF)
- [Statewide email: Webinar Materials - Alternative Methods Recommendations Submission Process](#) (PDF)
- [Presentation: Alternative Methods](#) (PDF)
- [Ad Hoc Alternative Methods Data Collections Study Findings](#) (PDF)
- [Survey Template](#) (Word)



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**  
fldoe.org

## Q&A



# Public Comment

## Contacts

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