

## ESL (English as a Second Language) Placement Testing

The ESL (English as a Second Language) placement test will determine if you need to take ESL classes before you start your program of study.

### Who needs to take the ESL placement test?

If English is not the first language you learned, then answer these questions to see if you need to take the ESL placement test.

- Have you had at least eight (8) years of K-12 school in the U.S.?
- If you are a College Credit Plus student, have you had at least six (6) years of school in the U.S.?
- Do you have college-level English (ENGL 101/1100 or above) transfer credit, or have you earned a degree from a U.S. college or university?
- Do you have a TOEFL score of at least 79 with 20 in both the reading and writing portions in the last two years?
- Do you have an IELTS score of at least 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each band in the last two years?

If the answer to **one or more** of these questions is YES, then you do not need to take the ESL placement test. Contact New Students & Orientation (<https://www.csc.edu/admissions/new-students/>) for next steps.

If the answer to all of these questions is NO, then you need to take the ESL placement test to be sure you have a successful start to your college education.

### What is on the test?

There are two parts to the test – a computer-based section and a writing sample.

- The computer-based part has three sections. It doesn't have a time limit.
  - Sentence Meaning
  - Language Use
  - Reading Comprehension
- For the writing sample, you will be given three topics. You will choose **one** of them and type a response to it. The time limit for the writing sample is one hour.

### How do I sign up to take the test?

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR SCHEDULING

1. Visit <https://www2.registerblast.com/csc/Exam/List>
2. Be sure to have your CougarID number available.
3. Sign in on the upper-right hand corner with your CSCC credentials.
4. Choose your Location. Most available testing sessions are in person. Some remote tests are available.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete your registration.

NOTE: A Zoom account is required for remote testing. To create an account, please visit <https://www.zoom.us/signup>

## What do my results mean?

Your result on the ESL placement test is **not** a score. The number shows your placement level. There are five possible results for the ESL placement test:

<u>If your result is ...</u>	<u>It means ...</u>
• 188	You placed into ESL 0188, the first course in the credit ESL series.
• 189	You placed into ESL 0189, the second course in the credit ESL series.
• 190	You placed into ESL 0190, the highest credit ESL course.
• 1100	You placed into English 1100, and you don't need to take ESL courses.
• 0	Your English level needs to be higher before you are ready for credit ESL.

You will have a number score for each of the three sections of the computer-based part of the test. There is no number score for the writing sample, and there is no number score for the overall test. An ESL instructor looks at how you did on the computer-based part of the test, evaluates your writing sample, and determines your placement.

## What are my next steps?

If your result is 0188, 0189, 0190, or 1100, contact the ESL Advisor at [esl@csc.edu](mailto:esl@csc.edu) about your next steps for your plan of study.

If you placed below credit ESL courses, we recommend that you take our non-credit Basic ESL classes, in the Columbus State Language Institute. You can find information about those courses here: <https://www.csc.edu/community/language-institute/basic-english.shtml>

## Can I retake the test?

You can take the test twice in two years.

Exception: If you tested below credit ESL and you successfully complete the non-credit Basic ESL 0170 or above, you will be able to take the ESL placement test an additional time.

## Contacts

Telephone Information Center	614/287-5353	<a href="mailto:information@csc.edu">information@csc.edu</a>
Languages and Communication Department	614/287-5400	<a href="mailto:apeter01@csc.edu">apeter01@csc.edu</a>
Non-Credit Registration Office	614/287-5858	<a href="mailto:cwddreg@csc.edu">cwddreg@csc.edu</a>
Language Institute	614/287-5064	<a href="mailto:langinst@csc.edu">langinst@csc.edu</a>
Language Institute – en español	614/287-3929	<a href="mailto:cwddreg@csc.edu">cwddreg@csc.edu</a>