

Course Placement

Durham Technical Community College accepts students' college transcripts; unweighted high school GPA; and ACT, SAT, GED, HiSET, NCDAP, COMPASS, ASSET, and ACCUPLACER scores for college placement.

Students who have completed associate degrees or higher from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States are college-ready and can take any gateway 100-level course on their plan of study. Students with associate degrees or higher from other countries should visit the Center for the Global Learner for support.

Students who do not already hold an associate degree or higher from the United States must use their unweighted high school GPA for placement if they graduated from an accredited high school in the United States. ACT, SAT, GED, HiSET, NCDAP, COMPASS, ASSET, and ACCUPLACER scores can be used for placement within ten years from the date taken.

If high school records or test scores are unavailable, students must take the placement test unless they have been continuously enrolled in classes at Durham Tech. Continuously enrolled is defined as not missing more than two consecutive semesters of enrollment in classes. After being out of classes two consecutive semesters (not including summer term), students must reapply to the college and retest if scores are older than ten years.

Students who graduated from a high school outside of the US will take the ACCUPLACER ESL test for placement in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) courses. If students pass the ACCUPLACER ESL test, then they will take the RISE placement tests where they will be placed into the appropriate classes or referred to the English for Academic Purposes department. Students who graduated from a US high school and meet any of the college-ready indicators but their first language is not US English will be referred to the English for Academic Purposes department for advising support. If they do not meet any of the college-ready indicators, then they must take the ACCUPLACER ESL test and then visit an advisor in English for Academic Purposes for advising.

Durham Tech will use the placement measure that gives students the highest placement into college coursework. For example, if a student's unweighted US high school GPA does not place the student into college-level English, but the student's SAT score does, then Durham Tech will use the student's SAT score for English placement.

Students who lack the appropriate high school GPA and who have ACT, SAT, GED, HiSET, NCDAP, COMPASS, ASSET, and/or ACCUPLACER scores from the last 10 years that do not place them into college-level courses (with or without coreq support course) will be required to take the RISE Placement Tests for placement into appropriate courses.

Specifically, only the following students are allowed to take the RISE placement test:

- Students whose US high school GPA is not unweighted
- Students whose unweighted high school GPA is not from a US high school, and they have been referred by the EAP department after first taking the ACCUPLACER ESL placement test
- Students whose ACT, SAT, GED, HiSET, NCDAP, COMPASS, ASSET, and/or ACCUPLACER scores from the last 10 years do not place them into college-level courses (with or without coreq support course)
- Students who lack Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) grades or DMA or DRE credits
- Students who are referred via the English for Academic Purposes department
- Career and College Promise (CCP) students who lack qualifying high school GPA or test scores for college-level coursework

See the following pages for more information on students can use the various measures for placement.

High School GPA

Students who graduated from a US high school must submit their high school transcript to Durham Tech for evaluation. They must use their unweighted US high school GPA for placement into college courses.

Special notes for Adult High School graduates:

- Graduates of all Adult High School programs on or after July 1, 2021 must use their high school GPAs for placement.
- Graduates of Durham Tech's Adult High School/Gateway to College program prior to July 1, 2021 who completed all 22 high school credits at Durham Tech must use their high school GPAs for placement.
- Graduates of Adult High School programs prior to July 1, 2021 who have a combination of credits from different schools cannot use their high school GPAs for placement.

Unweighted US High School GPA	English Placement	Math Placement <i>consult Plan of Study for required MAT coursework</i>
2.8 or higher	ENG 111	MAT 110, MAT 121, MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171
Between 2.2 and 2.799	ENG 111 and ENG 011	MAT 110 and MAT 010 MAT 121 and MAT 021 MAT 143 and MAT 043 MAT 152 and MAT 052 MAT 171 and MAT 071
2.199 or lower	ENG 002	MAT 003

ACT

Students must submit official ACT scores to Durham Tech for evaluation. Students can alternatively log into the password-protected ACT website in the presence of a Durham Tech admissions officer or advisor to show their test scores. See the tables below for ACT English and math placement guides.

ACT Scores	English Placement
ENG 18 or higher <u>OR</u> READ 22 or higher	ENG 111
ENG 16-17 <u>OR</u> READ 20-21	ENG 111 and ENG 011
ENG 15 or lower <u>OR</u> READ 19 or lower	ENG 002

*Must also have a grade of C or higher in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study Pre-Calculus course or an equivalent course from another state.

ACT Scores	Math Placement
MATH 27* or higher	MAT 271
MATH 22 or higher	MAT 110, MAT 121, MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171
MATH 20-21	MAT 110 and MAT 010 MAT 121 and MAT 021 MAT 143 and MAT 043 MAT 152 and MAT 052 MAT 171 and MAT 071
MATH 19 or lower	MAT 003

SAT

Students must submit official SAT scores to Durham Tech for evaluation. Students can alternatively log into the password-protected College Board website in the presence of a Durham Tech admissions officer or advisor to show their test scores. See the tables below for SAT English and math placement guides.

Minimum SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Score	Minimum SAT Scores in Critical Reading and Writing	English Course
480	500	ENG 111
479 or lower	499 or lower	ENG 002

*Must also have a grade of C or higher in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study Pre-Calculus course or an equivalent course from another state.

Minimum SAT Math Score	Minimum SAT Mathematics Score	Mathematics Course
600*	580*	MAT 271
530	500	MAT 110, MAT 121, MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171
529 or lower	499 or lower	MAT 003

GED

Students must submit official GED scores to Durham Tech for evaluation. See the tables below for GED English and math placement guides. Note that the scores are required in all four GED subject tests (Math, Reasoning Through Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science).

GED Test Scores	English Placement	Math Placement <i>consult Plan of Study for required MAT coursework</i>
165 or higher on all four subject tests	ENG 111	MAT 110, MAT 121, MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171
Between 145 and 164 on all four subject tests	ENG 111 and ENG 011	MAT 110 and MAT 010 MAT 121 and MAT 021 MAT 143 and MAT 043 MAT 152 and MAT 052 MAT 171 and MAT 071
144 or lower on any of the four subject tests	ENG 002 or take the RISE English Placement Test	MAT 003 or take the RISE Math Placement Test

HiSET

Students who took the HiSET high school equivalency test can use their scores to indicate that they are college ready. Note that the scores are required in all five HiSET subject tests (Language Arts—Reading, Language Arts—Writing, Math, Social Studies, and Science) and the essay.

HiSET Test Scores	English Placement	Math Placement <i>consult Plan of Study for required MAT coursework</i>
15 or higher on all five subject tests and 4 or higher on the essay	ENG 111	MAT 110, MAT 121, MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171
14 or lower on any of the five subject tests or 3 or lower on the essay	ENG 002 or take the RISE English Placement Test	MAT 003 or take the RISE Math Placement Test

Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) High School Courses

Note: Statewide implementation of CCRG in North Carolina high schools began in Spring 2021. Students who took a CCRG English or CCRG Math course in their senior year of high school can use their CCRG English and CCRG Math grades for placement. See the tables below for CCRG English and math placement guides.

CCRG English Grade	English Placement
A	ENG 111
B	ENG 111 and ENG 011
C, D, F	ENG 002

CCRG Math Grade	Math Placement
A	MAT 110 MAT 121 MAT 143 MAT 152 MAT 171
B	MAT 110 MAT 121 and MAT 021 MAT 143 MAT 152 MAT 171 and MAT 071
C	MAT 110 MAT 143 and MAT 043 MAT 152 and MAT 052
D, F	MAT 003

RISE Placement Test – English

There are two RISE English placement tests. Students must earn a 70% on each test to advance to the next. That is, if students earn a 70% or higher on Test 1, then they can take Test 2. If students don't earn a 70% or higher on Test 1, then they cannot take Test 2.

Student performance on each RISE English test corresponds with the RISE tiers that are used for placement into college-level courses with or without corequisite support and into the ENG 002 Transition English course.

Students may take the RISE English placement test a maximum of two times and must wait 24 hours between testing attempts to allow sufficient time to prepare.

RISE Placement Test and Scores	English Placement
Tier 2/Test 2 70% or higher	ENG 111
Tier 1/Test 1 70% or higher	ENG 111 and ENG 011
Tier 1/Test 1 Less than 70%	ENG 002

RISE Placement Test – Math

There are three RISE math placement tests. Students must earn a 70% on each test to advance to the next. That is, if students earn a 70% or higher on Test 1, then they can take Test 2. If students don't earn a 70% or higher on Test 2, then they cannot take Test 3.

Student performance on each RISE math test corresponds with the RISE tiers that are used for placement into college-level courses with or without corequisite support and into the MAT 003 Transition Math course.

Students may take the RISE math placement test a maximum of two times and must wait 24 hours between testing attempts to allow sufficient time to prepare.

RISE Placement Test and Scores	Math Placement
Tier 3/Test 3 70% or higher	MAT 121 MAT 171
Tier 2/Test 2 70% or higher	MAT 121 and MAT 021 MAT 143 MAT 152 MAT 171 and MAT 071
Tier 1/Test 1 70% or higher	MAT 110 MAT 143 and MAT 043 MAT 152 and MAT 052
Tier 1/Test 1 Less than 70%	MAT 003

Special note about Advanced Math Placement

A student may place directly into MAT 271 if the student has met at least one of the following criteria within the past five years:

- A score of 27 or higher on the ACT Math and a grade of C or higher in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study Pre-Calculus course or an equivalent course from another state
- A score of 600 or higher on the SAT Math (March 2016 and beyond) and a grade of C or higher in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study Pre-Calculus course or an equivalent course from another state
- A score of 580 or higher on the old SAT Math (prior to March 2016) and a grade of C or higher in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study Pre-Calculus course or an equivalent course from another state
- A score of 2 or higher on the AP Calculus AB Exam
- A grade of C or higher in an AP Calculus course and an unweighted high school GPA of 3.0 or higher

- An unweighted HS GPA of 3.5 or higher and a grade of C or higher in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study Pre-Calculus course or an equivalent course from another state (for placement during the 2020-2021 academic year only)

Students can use the ACCUPLACER Next Gen Advanced Algebra and Functions placement test:

ACCUPLACER Next Gen Test Score	Math Placement
60-236	MAT 171
237-276	MAT 172
Minimum 277	MAT 271

Students can also use the SAT subject tests to place into MAT 172 or MAT 271:

Minimum SAT Subject Level I Score	Minimum SAT Subject Level II Score	Math Placement
540	480	MAT 172
620	560	MAT 271

Historical Placement Tests: NCDAP, ACCUPLACER, COMPASS, ASSET

The following placement tests are no longer offered at Durham Tech. They indicated placement into DRE, DMA, and developmental ENG, RED, and MAT courses that the college no longer offers. See the RISE Placement Guide Summary that follows for DRE to ENG and DMA to MAT crosswalks.

NCDAP, ACCUPLACER, COMPASS, and ASSET scores from other schools can be used with Durham Tech's placement levels if taken within 10 years and if the scores indicate that the student is college-ready. It is the student's responsibility to request that other colleges send official copies of their placement test scores to Durham Tech's Testing Center (Wynn Center, Room 10-302).

NCDAP – Math

Prior to January 2019, there were 8 developmental math modules (DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, DMA 050, DMA 060, DMA 070, and DMA 080). The NCDAP reports students' placement into or out of each DMA module. Students must score a 7 or higher on a module to test out of a module.

There is no NCDAP test for DMA 070 and DMA 080. All students who test out of DMA 060 are waived from DMA 070 and 080. Students who place into DMA 060 must take DMA 070 and 080 if their program courses have a prerequisite of these modules.

Students who score a 0 or 1 on DMA 010 and not out of any other module should be referred to Vernon Bridges for a non-credit math course. Students who score 2-6 on DMA 010 place into DMA 010.

NCDAP – Reading/English

To place a student in English and Developmental Reading and English (DRE) courses, use this scale for placement:

100-103	Refer to Robbi Muckenfuss for a non-credit reading and writing course
104-116	DRE 096
117-135	DRE 097
136-150	DRE 098
151+	ENG 111

ACCUPLACER – Math

To place a student in MAT courses, use these scales for placement:

55 on the Arithmetic Test Begin with MAT 070
0-54 on the Arithmetic Test Take the COMPASS test for placement

55 on both the Arithmetic and Elementary Algebra Tests Begin with MAT 080, 110, 115, 121, 140
0-54 on the Elementary Algebra Test Take the COMPASS test for placement

If the student scores 55 on Arithmetic and 75 on Elementary Algebra, begin with MAT 151, 161, 171, or take the COMPASS College Algebra Test for placement

ACCUPLACER – College-Level Math

To place a student into college-level MAT courses, use this scale for placement:

Below 60	MAT 171
60-89	MAT 172 or MAT 263
90+	MAT 271

ACCUPLACER – Reading/Writing

To place a student in ENG 111 and DRE courses, add the ACCUPLACER reading and sentence skills scores; use this scale for placement:

40-71	Take the NCDAP – Reading/English
72-91	DRE 096
92-128	DRE 097
129-165	DRE 098
86+ on Sentence Skills	ENG 111, if Reading Score is 80+
80+ on Reading	ENG 111, if Sentence Skills Score is 86+

COMPASS – Math

To place a student in MAT courses, use these scales for placement:

Pre-Algebra Test

0-26	MAT 050
27-46	MAT 060
47-99	MAT 070

If student scores in the 47-99 range on Pre-Algebra, use Algebra score to determine math placement.

Algebra Test

0-45	MAT 070 (40-45 suggest MAT 090)
46-65	MAT 080 or any course with MAT 070 prerequisite
66-99	Any course with MAT 080 prerequisite or take College Algebra Test (70-99 suggest MAT 175)

College Algebra Test (for advanced math placement)

0-49	MAT 171 (45-49 suggest MAT 175)
50-100	MAT 172 or MAT 263 or take Trigonometry Test

Trigonometry Test (for advanced math placement)

0-47	MAT 172 or MAT 263
48-100	MAT 271

COMPASS – Reading/Writing

To place a student in ENG 111 and DRE courses, add the COMPASS reading and writing scores; use this scale for placement:

0-63	Take the NCDAP – Reading/English
64-84	DRE 096
85-111	DRE 097
112-150	DRE 098
70+ on Writing	ENG 111, if Reading Score is 81+
81+ on Reading	ENG 111, if Writing Score is 70+

ASSET – Reading/Writing

To place a student in DRE courses, add the ASSET reading and writing scores; use this scale for placement:

0-51	Take the NCDAP – Reading/English
52-61	DRE 096
62-71	DRE 097
72-81	DRE 098
41+ on Writing	ENG 111, if Reading Score is 41+
41+ on Reading	ENG 111, if Writing Score is 41+

ASSET – Math

To place a student in MAT courses, use these scales for placement:

Numerical Skills Test

23-35	MAT 050
36-40	MAT 060
41-55	MAT 070 or take the Elementary Algebra Test

Elementary Algebra Test

23-40	MAT 070 (36-40 suggest MAT 090)
41-55	MAT 080, 110, 115, 121, 140 or take the Intermediate Algebra Test

Intermediate Algebra Test

23-40	MAT 080, MAT 140
41-55	Any course with MAT 080 prerequisite or take COMPASS College Algebra Test

Additional Course Placement Support

For additional support in placement and advising, please contact any of the following college personnel (919-536-7200):

Advising Office	ext. 7205
Testing Center	ext. 1109
Vernon Bridges, Chair, Developmental Math	ext. 8077
Chris Mansfield, Chair, Mathematics and Physics	ext. 8026
Gabby McCutchen, Dean, Student Engagement, Transitions, and Academic Success	ext. 8083
Robbi Muckenfuss, Chair, Developmental English	ext. 8084
Paula Wider, Director of English for Academic Purposes	ext. 4053

RISE Placement Guide Summary



MATH PLACEMENT GUIDE

Course	Unweighted US HS GPA	ACT Math within 10 years	SAT Math 2016 or later within 10 years	SAT Math Prior to 2016 within 10 years	GED 2014 or later; score on all 4 parts of the test	HiSET Score on all 5 parts of the test	Min CCRG Math Grade	Math-003 Grade	DMA Credits Completed	RISE Placement Test	Additional Notes
MAT 003 Transition Math	2.199 or lower	19 or lower	529 or lower	499 or lower	--	--	D, F	--	--	Tier 1 less than 70%	
MAT 110 and MAT 010	2.2 - 2.799	20-21	--	--	145 - 164	--	--	--	--	--	
MAT 110	2.8 or higher	22 or higher	530 or higher	500 or higher	165 or higher	15 or higher	C	P1	DMA 010, 020 and 030	Tier 1 70% or higher	
MAT 121 and MAT 021	2.2 - 2.799	20-21	--	--	145 - 164	--	B	P2	DMA 010, 020, 030, 040, and 050	Tier 2 70% or higher	Alt Prereq: MAT 143 or 152 Min Grade C
MAT 121	2.8 or higher	22 or higher	530 or higher	500 or higher	165 or higher	15 or higher	A	P3	DMA 010, 020, 030, 040, 050, and 060	Tier 3 70% or higher	
MAT 143 and MAT 043	2.2 - 2.799	20-21	--	--	145 - 164	--	C	P1	DMA 010, 020, and 030	Tier 1 70% or higher	Prereq: ENG 002, P1
MAT 143	2.8 or higher	22 or higher	530 or higher	500 or higher	165 or higher	15 or higher	B	P2	DMA 010, 020, 030, 040, and 050	Tier 2 70% or higher	Prereq: ENG 002, P1
MAT 152 and MAT 052	2.2 - 2.799	20-21	--	--	145 - 164	--	C	P1	DMA 010, 020, and 030	Tier 1 70% or higher	Prereq: ENG 002, P1
MAT 152	2.8 or higher	22 or higher	530 or higher	500 or higher	165 or higher	15 or higher	B	P2	DMA 010, 020, 030, 040, and 050	Tier 2 70% or higher	Prereq: ENG 002, P1
MAT 171 and MAT 071	2.2 - 2.799	20-21	--	--	145 - 164	--	B	P2	DMA 010, 020, 030, 040, and 050	Tier 2 70% or higher	Alt Prereq: MAT 143 or 152 Min Grade C
MAT 171	2.8 or higher	22 or higher	530 or higher	500 or higher	165 or higher	15 or higher	A	P3	DMA 010, 020, 030, 040, 050, 060, 070, and 080	Tier 3 70% or higher	

ENGLISH PLACEMENT GUIDE

Course	Unweighted US HS GPA	ACT within 10 years	SAT ENG 2016 or later within 10 years	SAT ENG Prior to 2016 within 10 years	GED 2014 or later; score on all 4 parts of the test	HiSET Score on all 5 parts of the test	Min CCRG English Grade	ENG-002 Grade	DRE Credits Completed	RISE Placement Test
ENG 002 Transition English	2.199 or lower	ENG 15 or lower <u>OR</u> READ 19 or lower	479 or lower	499 or lower	--	--	C, D, F	--	DRE 096	Tier 1 less than 70%
ENG 111 and ENG 011	2.2 - 2.799	ENG 16-17 <u>OR</u> READ 20-21	--	--	145 - 164	--	B	P1	DRE 097	Tier 1 70% or higher
ENG 111	2.8 or higher	ENG 18 or higher <u>OR</u> READ 22 or higher	480 or higher	500	165 or higher	15 or higher	A	P2	DRE 098	Tier 2 70% or higher

Additional RISE Advising Guidelines

- Students with associate degrees or higher from an accredited college or university in the United States are college-ready and can take any gateway 100-level course on their Plans of Study. Students with associate degrees or higher from other countries should visit the Center for the Global Learner for support.
- ACT, SAT, NCDAP, COMPASS, ASSET, and ACCUPLACER placement test scores expire after 10 years from the date of testing.
- Developmental education (e.g., DRE, DMA, ENG, MAT) credits do not expire.
- Current high school students may re-submit their unweighted US high school GPA or test scores if later scores give students a higher placement.
- Special note for students who answer “no” to one or both of the intake questions (Is US English your first language? Did you graduate from a US high school?)
 - If they meet any of the college-ready indicators, then they can register for college-level coursework and should be referred to English for Academic Purposes for additional support.
 - If they do not meet any of the college-ready indicators, then they must take the ACCUPLACER ESL test and then visit an advisor in English for Academic Purposes for advising.