

Answers about the COMPASS Test for students in Remedial Math Classes

Why do I need to take the COMPASS test?

Answer: *COMPASS proficiency ($M1 \geq 30$ and $M2 \geq 30$) is a requirement for graduation and/or transfer to a senior college. It is also required before taking a college credit math course.*

Does the COMPASS Test affect my final grade in the course?

Answer: *NO. Regardless of your COMPASS result, the final course grade is based only on your class tests and the final exam and other class work.*

Why do I have to take the COMPASS Test if it is not going to affect my final grade?

Answer: *It is a University requirement. You must achieve COMPASS proficiency to take college credit math courses, to graduate from BCC, and to transfer to a senior college.*

If I pass the COMPASS Test, can I skip the next remedial math course?

Answer: *No. You must continue with the math course sequence you started. For example, if you are currently taking MTH 05 and you are Liberal Arts major with a Science option, or a business or technology major, then you must take MTH 06 next semester, regardless of your COMPASS scores.*

I already passed COMPASS Test but I am in a remedial math class, WHY?

Answer: *Higher COMPASS scores are required for exemption from MTH 01, MTH 05 and MTH 06.*

Placing out MTH 01 requires a score ≥ 30 on either M1 or M2; placing out of MTH 05 requires $M1 \geq 30$ and $M2 \geq 45$; placing out of MTH 06 requires $M1 \geq 30$, $M2 \geq 45$ and M5 (Trigonometry) ≥ 30 .

When and how often can I take COMPASS Test?

Answer: *If you are taking a remedial math class, the instructor will give you a date near the end of the semester when you can take the COMPASS Test. Not everyone in the class will take the COMPASS Test, however. If your class average is lower than a C, your instructor may not allow you to take the test. In that case, you will take the test in your next course, or if you repeat the current course. If you have passed all your remedial courses without passing the COMPASS, you can go to the Math Tutorial Lab (CPH 303) and do 15 hours of certified COMPASS preparation, after which you can take the COMPASS.*

How can I prepare for the COMPASS Test?

Answer: *In addition to what you are learning in class, you can go to online practice test sites: go to www.bcc.cuny.edu click Site Index, click Testing Office, and then click the Math Test Review, and click Diagnostic Test for COMPASS Pre-algebra M1 or Algebra M2 OR for Practice Test for M1 or M2. Practice booklets and other materials can be obtained from the Math Tutorial Lab in CPH 303.*

I am not taking a math class now. Can I take COMPASS Test?

Answer: *YES, but only if you have no more remedial math courses to take. In that case, you can take the COMPASS after 15 hours of preparation in the Math Tutorial Lab, CPH 303.*

What if my transcript says I am “EXEMPT/CERTIFIED” in Math?

Answer: *That means you don't have to take the COMPASS test, and you don't have to take MTH 01 or MTH 05. However, if you are a science, business or technology major, you may still have to take MTH 06 before taking a college credit math course.*

****For students in pre-clinical Nursing****

You must score $M1 \geq 35$ and $M2 \geq 30$ to be eligible to take PHM 10. There is no math course requirement, but there are some courses required for Nursing, such as BIO 11 and 23, CHM 02, 11, and 17, that list MTH 03 as a pre- or co-requisite. Since MTH 03 is no longer offered, that requirement has been replaced by COMPASS proficiency ($M1 \geq 30$ and $M2 \geq 30$). If you did not achieve COMPASS proficiency when you entered BCC, you will have to take MTH 01 and/or MTH 05, depending on your initial COMPASS scores.