

## Test Taking Strategies and Success Tips

- Read each question slowly, twice
- If possible, think about the correct answer before you look at the choices provided
- Test your choice by plugging it into the question - does it make sense
- Read ALL the answer choices before selecting your answer
- Trust your instincts and avoid changing answers
- Get a good night's sleep
- Eat a healthful breakfast
- Water and protein are brain boosters on test day
- Take a short walk prior to the test
- Test during your personal "peak" time of the day
- Utilize relaxation techniques such as deep breathing
- Visualize success and give yourself a pep talk - be positive!
- Allow plenty of time
- Avoid comparisons with others who are testing
- Expect a few curve balls
- If you are stuck, take a mental break for a few moments
- Tense, then relax, your major muscle groups or do shoulder rolls
- Reward yourself when finished - **It is an accomplishment!**

## Academic Advising

If you placed at two or more 030, 060, or 090 levels, you are encouraged to contact our Transition Coordinator for detailed information about RRCC's College Preparatory programs/classes.  
**Contact:** kathleen.martinez@rrcc.edu or 303.914.6739

If you placed at college level, you are encouraged to meet with one of our Academic Advisors located in the Student Welcome Center Suite.  
**Contact:** advising@rrcc.edu or 303.914.6255

## Additional Resources of Interest

The **College Prep Zone**, which is located in the Learning and Resource Center (LARC), is a service you can utilize for ACCUPLACER test preparation. You are encouraged to work through sample problems/questions first, then bring the "toughies" to the Zone for assistance.  
**Contact:** randy.landiseigsti@rrcc.edu or 303.914.6736

The **Connect to Success Office**, which is also located in the LARC, provides general study/success tips (such as managing test anxiety) for students interested in methods to study smarter, not harder, for all levels of coursework.  
**Contact:** dana.kobold@rrcc.edu or 303.914.6317



**RED ROCKS**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**ASSESSMENT CENTER**

The RRCC Assessment Center administers the statewide course placement test, the **ACCUPLACER**.

Additionally, the Center provides facilities for RRCC instructor-supplied academic tests, exams for industry certifications and licensure, CLEP testing, as well as proctored testing for external students.

Because our operation hours vary with the academic calendar, please visit the Assessment Centers or the website to see our current hours and the latest updates.  
[www.rrcc.edu/assessment](http://www.rrcc.edu/assessment)

**Lakewood Campus:** Room 1320  
Student Welcome Center Suite  
13300 West Sixth Avenue  
Lakewood, CO 80228-1255  
Phone: 303.914.6720  
Fax: 303.914.6457

**Arvada Campus Contact:**  
303.914.6030 or gina.jimenez@rrcc.edu

## What exactly is the ACCUPLACER and why should I take it?

The ACCUPLACER is a computerized test that is required by all two and four year Colorado colleges and universities to determine readiness for college-level reading, writing, and mathematics.

You cannot "pass" or "fail" this placement test, but it is important that you do your best so that you will have an accurate measure of your current academic skills.

Your test scores will assist you in the correct course placement to best position yourself for success in your classes.

## What will I see on the ACCUPLACER?

### Reading Comprehension

Ex. Identify the main ideas  
Inferences

### Sentence Skills

Ex. Recognize complete sentences  
Detect clauses and phrases

### Elementary Algebra

Ex. Algebraic expressions  
Rational numbers

### Arithmetic

Ex. Fractions  
Decimals and percents

## General information about the ACCUPLACER

- **IMPORTANT:** You **must** present a government-issued photo ID in order to take the ACCUPLACER test (or any other exam) in the Assessment Center.
- The test is given on a walk-in basis (no appointment needed).
- The first administration of the ACCUPLACER is free for RRCC students. There is a \$5 charge per section if you choose to retest.
- Cell phones, electronic devices, beverages, sunglasses and hats are not allowed in the testing room.
- **The test is not timed**, so pace yourself - no need to rush!
- This is a multiple choice test; no writing samples are required.
- The test is adaptive; you **must** answer each question to trigger the next question.
- **Do not** bring a calculator. One will pop-up on the screen for questions that might require a calculator.
- The math test begins with algebra questions. After that, you may be directed to additional questions.
- **You will receive your scores as soon as you finish the test.**

## Increase your preparation to lower your anxiety

One of the best ways to lower test anxiety is to **PREPARE** - familiarize yourself with what you will see on the test prior to taking it. The more comfortable you are with the actual test questions and format, the greater your confidence.

Listed below are several useful online sites with FREE practice materials.

[http://www.testprepreview.com/accuplacer\\_practice.htm](http://www.testprepreview.com/accuplacer_practice.htm)

Offers specific "self assessment modules" links and a "self improvement directory" link for more practice options

<http://www.studyguidezone.com/accuplacertest.htm>

Offers specific links to arithmetic, sentence skills, and reading practice

<http://www.studyguidezone.com/pdfs/accuplacerteststudyguide.pdf> Offers a free 50-page resource guide

<http://www.accuplacertestquestions.com/accuplacer-practice.html> Offers a free 50-question practice test that covers all three general subject areas

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/accuplacer/index.html> Offers a free 14-page resource guide

<http://www.rrcc.edu/assessment/accuguide/>

Offers links to a variety of practice materials, including a math prep site produced by the RRCC math department with access to YouTube videos and worksheets for Math level classes 030, 060 and 090 concepts.