

## 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

After receiving your test results we recommend that you make an appointment with an academic advisor to plan your academic year. **Contact:** [advising@rrcc.edu](mailto:advising@rrcc.edu) or 303.914.6255

### Additional Resources of Interest

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

**Connect to Success Services**, which is also located in the Learning Commons, provides general study/success tips (such as managing test anxiety) for students interested in methods to study smarter, not harder, for all levels of collegiate coursework. **Contact:** [rrcc.connecttosuccess@rrcc.edu](mailto:rrcc.connecttosuccess@rrcc.edu) or 303.914.6317

Revised 01/15/2014



RED ROCKS  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**ASSESSMENT CENTER**

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

Our typical hours are Monday thru Thursday 9:00-6:00 and Friday 9:00 - 5:00. However, our operation hours vary with the academic calendar, please visit the Assessment Centers or the website to see the latest updates.

[www.rrcc.edu/assessment](http://www.rrcc.edu/assessment)

**Lakewood Campus:**  
Admissions & Advising Center  
13300 West Sixth Avenue  
Lakewood, CO 80228-1255  
Phone: 303.914.6720

**Arvada Campus Contact:**  
303.914.6030 or [gina.jimenez@rrcc.edu](mailto:gina.jimenez@rrcc.edu)

## What exactly is 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 ACCUPLACER?

### Reading Comprehension

Identify the main ideas  
Inferences

### Sentence Skills

Recognize complete sentences  
Detect clauses and phrases

### Elementary Algebra

Algebraic expressions  
Rational numbers

### Arithmetic

Fractions  
Decimals and percentage

## General information about 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. See the retest policy on the next column.
- 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:

[www.varsitytutors.com/practice-tests](http://www.varsitytutors.com/practice-tests)

[www.areyoureadyformath.com](http://www.areyoureadyformath.com)

[www.rrcc.edu/assessment/accuguide](http://www.rrcc.edu/assessment/accuguide)

Offers links to practice materials, including a math prep site produced by the RRCC math department with access to YouTube videos and worksheets for college prep math review.

<https://opencourses.desire2learn.com/cat/course/math-assessment-preparation-6919/>

### **RETEST POLICY:**

*The first time you take the Accuplacer it is free. All subsequent test(s) are \$5 per section. The exam cannot be taken more than three times between census dates.*

*The second retest can be taken as early as the next day. The same day retest is not allowed according to the College Board.*

*There will be at least a 2 week waiting period between the second and third retest. RRCC students will require approval from the Learning Commons for the third (final) test attempt.*