AIMS COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROCEDURE

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS

Public higher education institutions in Colorado are required to follow the “Statewide Remedial Education Policy” (updated on December 5, 2013). This policy specifies required minimum cut scores for placement into college-level English and mathematic courses. If the minimum scores are not attained, new students must enroll in College Composition and Reading (CCR) and/or mathematics courses based on scores from authorized Colorado Commission on Higher Education sources.

For the purposes of this document, new students are defined as degree/certificate-seeking, transfer-focused, or undecided as indicated on the Admissions Application by the individual. New students pursuing *select certificates and/or personal interest courses are exempt from this process. If a student changes from a select certificate and/or personal interest to degree/certificate-seeking, transfer-focused, or undecided/undeclared status, the student is required to complete the assessment process upon submission of the change and immediately enroll in appropriate developmental education courses.

Developmental education courses help students attain basic skills in reading/writing and mathematics in order to advance to college-level courses, graduate, and ultimately enter the workforce. To that end, Aims Community College requires students testing into any level of developmental education courses to engage in enrollment patterns that support their success and places a registration hold upon completion of the assessment process to disallow self-selection out of correct developmental education courses. It is important to note that Aims has established minimum assessment score thresholds that students must meet in order to fully matriculate into academic programs.

Students must achieve at least a 40 or above on the Reading portion and 50 or above on the Sentence Skills/English portion of the Accuplacer to be admitted or matriculated into any credit-bearing course/program at the college. Students testing below these scores are encouraged to access resources to assist with reading and English deficiencies prior to reassessing. Reassessment is mandatory, and the cost of reassessment is the responsibility of the student. Students scoring below 40 on the Arithmetic or 30 on the Elementary Algebra portion of the Accuplacer are permitted to register for other appropriate credit-bearing courses but must pay to reassess and achieve 40 or above in Arithmetic or 30 in Elementary Algebra before enrolling for their third semester. Students testing into any level of developmental education courses are required to take an Advanced Academic Achievement (AAA) course by the completion of the first 12 credits hours of enrollment (1st semester enrollment is highly recommended).

In order to ensure consistent application of this mandate, all new students are advised through the Student Success Center or TRIO Programs. These advisors help students schedule developmental education courses, an Advanced Academic Achievement course, and any other instruction for which the student is adequately prepared. If a student is interested in a Career and Technical Education program area, they are co-advised by a Student Success Center or TRIO
advisor and program faculty until all developmental education needs are met. All advisors provide students with information about federal financial aid policies specifically related to developmental education course completion. Each developmental education course must be completed with a grade of C or better for successful completion and/or to advance to the next level of coursework. Developmental education courses do not apply toward degree or certificate requirements.

*Faculty must request to have a certificate placed on the exempt list via their Academic Dean. Certificates that contain no general education courses and are standalone (do not lead/progress to a degree) automatically qualify but still require Dean approval. The Chief Academic Officer (CAO) has the final authority over this list, and faculty may appeal to the CAO for an exception. The review process occurs once a semester and the updated list is forwarded to the Director of the Student Success Center for posting and dissemination.

APPROVED: Dr. Marilynn Liddell
Aims Community College President
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