

Determining English and Math Placement at Cabrillo College

Students arriving at Cabrillo are required to participate in Assessment tests in English, Reading and Mathematics (*unless they can determine placement through other means – see below*). The Math assessment places students into algebra classes or transfer-level Math (which includes pre-calculus and statistics). The English assessment places students into Basic English, Elements of Writing or transfer-level English.

Early Assessment Program (EAP) – scores from the junior year STAR test

Students who achieve “Ready for CSU or participating CCC college-level English and/or mathematics courses” – *without the status of “Conditional”* - do not need to take assessments, and may enroll in transfer-level English and Math courses. Most students meet one or the other without the “Conditional” notation. They will need to assess in any subject in which they did not receive “Ready for ...” or “Conditional”. Students may scan and e-mail as a pdf, or bring, their STAR (EAP), ELM and EPT test results to Admissions and Records – evaluator@cabrillo.edu

Math Placement through h.s. articulation and Assessment into Calculus:

If a student has taken pre-calculus or an equivalent course at a Santa Cruz county high school, and an agreement is in place between the high school and Cabrillo’s mathematics department, the student who assesses into transfer-level math and meets the specific grade requirements of the high school course may place directly into Math 5A, Calculus. (*Official h.s. transcript required to be presented to Cabrillo Counselor for verification*).

h.s. math agreements are here:

<http://www.cabrillo.edu/services/articulation/documents/math%205A%20placement%20via%20HS%20Artic.pdf>

English Placement using AP (Advanced Placement) Exam Scores

Students who achieve a score of 3, 4 or 5 in AP English Language and Composition or English Language and Literature do not need to assess in English. See **IMPORTANT NOTE** regarding Use of AP exams below.

Math Placement using AP (Advanced Placement) Exam Scores

Students who achieve a score of 3, 4 or 5 in AP Calculus (AB or BC) or AP Statistics do not need to take the math assessment test. AP Calculus AB places directly into Cabrillo’s Math 5B (2nd semester calculus) and AP Calculus BC places directly into Cabrillo’s Math 5C (3rd semester calculus).

Students must bring or mail their official AP exam scores to Cabrillo Counseling or Admissions and Records to be verified for placement and in order to register for math classes at Cabrillo. If the high school registrar’s office prints out a student’s AP scores directly from the College Board site and puts in a sealed envelope, Cabrillo will deem these scores “official”. They may be mailed or delivered to Cabrillo Admissions and Records. Students may also have their AP transcript sent to Cabrillo directly from the College Board, though this usually takes longer and requires a fee.

IMPORTANT NOTE regarding Use of AP Exams:

Students gain college units for AP exams with scores of 3, 4 or 5. These units count toward the 60 semester units required to transfer to four-year universities. AP exams *may be* used to fulfill general education requirements for transfer including IGETC (used by both UC and CSU) and the CSU G.E. Breadth (used by CSU).

AP exams may also be used for major preparation, *however*, how universities use these scores toward the major varies from campus to campus. Cabrillo counselors will assist students regarding how individual UC campuses apply AP exams to their various majors. It may not always be in the students interest to use AP scores to fulfill transfer requirements, *and scores of 3 and 4 may not be applicable to certain universities in certain majors.*

Pending AP scores

Many h.s. seniors take AP exams in Spring of their senior year – and they do not receive their scores until July. “Pending” scores may not be used in place of assessment or for placement. We recommend students awaiting AP English Lang scores as their English placement, take Cabrillo’s English assessment and register for the course they place into. If their score ends up being high enough to place out of that registered course, they may drop it and attempt to register in the higher level course.

Students awaiting Calc AB scores should take Cabrillo’s math assessment and talk with a counselor. Students awaiting Calc BC scores may use their Calc AB scores to place into MATH 5B. They should register for MATH 5B, and if their BC score ends up being high enough, they may decide to drop MATH 5B and attempt to register for MATH 5C.

Students must bring or mail their official AP exam scores to Cabrillo Counseling or Admissions and Records to be verified for placement and in order to register for math classes at Cabrillo. If the high school registrar’s office prints out a student’s AP scores directly from the College Board site and puts in a sealed envelope, Cabrillo will deem these scores “official”. They may be mailed or delivered to Cabrillo Admissions and Records. Students may also have their AP transcript sent to Cabrillo directly from the College Board, though this usually takes longer and requires a fee.

IB Exams

Students who achieve a score of 5, 6 or 7 on the Mathematics High level (HL) exam do not need to take the **math** assessment. *Students must bring their official IB exam scores to a Cabrillo counselor to be verified for placement and in order to register for math classes at Cabrillo.*

Like AP exams, students gain college units for IB exams with scores of 5, 6 or 7 on higher level (HL) exams. In addition, achieving a score of 5 or higher on IB HL exams can meet some IGETC course requirements. However, IB English may not be used for English placement at Cabrillo, nor to meet either of the two English courses required in Area A of the IGETC.

IB exams can be used for major preparation, but there is no common statewide policy on how universities apply IB exams to major courses. Each UC campus lists how IB exams are used for general education or major preparation at their individual campuses at the following website:

<http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/counselors/exam-credit/ib-credits/index.html>