

Migrating to next-generation ACCUPLACER starts with you.

Before your Testing Director can administer a next-generation test, they need you to help set accurate placement standards.

Take these steps to establish course placement scores and make placement decisions based on your institution's unique factors and data:

- 1 Select and train a diverse standards-setting panel of 15–20 staff members that includes faculty, testing staff, administrators, and institution researchers.
- 2 Leverage the ACCUPLACER® Program Manual and have your facilitator give the panel test content background information to use, along with course objectives, to determine placement requirements.
- 3 Have panelists take each next-generation ACCUPLACER test individually or in a large group to review test-item formats and test content in a real-life setting.
- 4 Set Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs). PLDs define the minimal level of performance needed for successful placement in each course and let you tailor placement scores to your student population.

Once these four steps are complete, you're ready to establish placement scores for your institution!

Additional standard-setting reference materials are on the ACCUPLACER platform at accuplacer.org, under *Next-Generation Migration Resources* (on the Resources tab).

How To Set Placement Scores

Determine which of the methods highlighted below is right for your institution.

BOOKMARK METHOD

This is a three-round process in which panelists work through a booklet of ACCUPLACER test questions arranged in order from easiest to hardest. Panelists place a bookmark after the number of questions they determine students should be able to answer at a minimum.

OR

SKILLS INSIGHT STATEMENTS

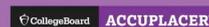
The Skills Insight™ statements describe the knowledge and skills associated with a specific next-generation ACCUPLACER score range. Within each score band, the statements describe what a student scoring within that band is likely to know and be able to do in relation to the academic skills measured on the test. Institutions can use Skills Insight as a starting point for determining course placement scores. If the list of PLDs for a college course closely matches the Skills Insight statements for a particular score range, the lower part of that range may be considered as the initial placement score.

AND

VALIDATE YOUR SCORES WITH ACES

Whichever method you use, after a year we strongly recommend you evaluate the efficacy of your placement scores and placement decisions with a predictive validity study. Admitted Class Evaluation Service™ or ACES™ is a free online service that helps you validate placement decisions based on your placement scores.

Setting and Validating Standards



Watch a video on setting and validating standards on the College Board YouTube channel: collegeboard.org/accuplacer-toolkit