

Although not included in the 1990 Questionnaire, computer placement tests are now available:

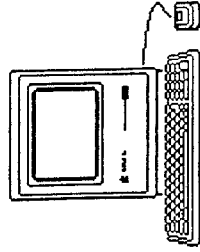
**THE AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING PROGRAM (ACT):**  
**Computer-adaptive Placement Assessment and Support Services (ACT/COMPASS)**

An adaptively delivered test providing placement assessment in mathematics covering the skills found in courses ranging from Pre-Algebra to College Algebra and Trigonometry, to be used by both two- and four-year colleges.

The system allows the user to specify which of several tests to administer, the level of precision needed, the number of questions to be administered, what placement messages to be printed on the student reports, and other options.

The cost is \$0.40 per student plus \$1.00 per curriculum area administered (Pre-Algebra through College Algebra is one curriculum area), and a \$450 annual software license fee per campus.

Contact : John Roth, Ph.D. - Director  
ACT Placement Services  
2201 North Dodge Street  
Iowa City, Iowa 52243  
(319) 337-1030



**THE COLLEGE BOARD EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE (ETS):**  
**Computerized Placement Tests (ETS/CPT)**

A battery of 3 separate adaptively delivered tests (Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, College Level Math) normed on a national population of entering two- and four-year college students and used for placement into entry level courses.

Each test can be tailored to the individual based upon their mathematics preparation. Each student will automatically be given the appropriate test. An immediate response is given on the screen and can be printed out.

Each test costs \$1.00 per administration. There is an annual \$750 or \$250 licensing fee depending upon whether or not the institution uses the research capabilities.

Contact: Lisa Dickens - College Board  
45 Columbus Avenue  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 713-8082

Although not included in the 1990 Questionnaire, computer placement tests are now available:

**THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MAA):**  
**Custom-Designed Tests**

A computer-based test generating system produces parallel forms of multiple-choice mathematics tests which can be used for placement into developmental and college-level mathematics courses.

The system is flexible and allows a user to select a version of one of the twelve tests currently available in the MAA's Placement Testing Program (PTP) or to create a test by selecting items from the 242 test patterns within the system.

Contact: Placement Test Program Coordinator  
The Mathematical Association of  
America

1529 Eighteenth Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 387-5200

# MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT TESTS IN TWO-YEAR COLLEGES



*This brochure was prepared by the  
AMATYC Placement/Assessment  
Committee. Additional copies are  
available from Richelle (Rikki) Blair,  
Chairperson of the Placement/  
Assessment Committee, Lakeland  
Community College, 7700 Clock  
Tower Drive, Mentor, Ohio 44060.*

American Mathematical  
Association of Two-Year Colleges  
1992

## Mathematics Placement Tests Used Most Often in Two-Year Colleges

In 1990, the Placement/Assessment Committee of AMATYC distributed a questionnaire to two-year college mathematics chairpersons in the United States and Canada. The purpose of the questionnaire was to collect data on mathematics placement tests in use, cut-off scores, the degree of satisfaction with tests used and methods of administration and interpretation of tests. A total of 1,532 questionnaires were mailed and 400 (26%) were returned.

The complete results of the study were published in the Spring, 1991 issue of the *AMATYC Review*. The five mathematics placement tests used most often by two-year colleges were: ACT/MPE, ACT/ASSET, MAA/PTP, ETS/APS, and ETS/DTMS. This brochure has been designed to provide the reader with information on the nature of each of the above tests, their cost and where they can be obtained. The purpose of this brochure is the dissemination of information. AMATYC does not endorse any one test listed.

### THE AMERICAN COLLEGE TESTING PROGRAM (ACT)

#### **ACT/Asset**

Asset is a student advising, placement, and retention service which includes tests in Numerical Skills, Elementary Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, and College Algebra, designed specifically for two-year colleges and normed on a national population of two-year college students.

Each test is a multiple choice test, 25 minutes in length, consisting of 25 problems. Test booklets are reusable, can be locally scored, and are sold in packages of 25 (\$12.50 per package).

#### **Mathematics Placement Examination (ACT/MPE)**

The MPE consists of three levels of tests used for placement into entry level courses, suitable for both two- and four-year institutions. Level 1 consists of Pre-Algebra and Algebra, Level 2 consists of Intermediate Algebra and Geometry, and Level 3 consists of College Algebra and Trigonometry. The MPE was developed in conjunction with the Illinois State-Wide Postsecondary Mathematics Placement Task Force.

Each test level checks basic mathematical skills as well as complex reasoning processes. Each level requires 50 minutes of testing time, is locally scored, and costs \$1 per test level per student.

Contact: John Roth, Ph.D. - Director  
ACT Placement Services  
2201 North Dodge Street  
Iowa City, IA 52243  
(319) 337-1030

### THE COLLEGE BOARD/EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE (ETS)

Mathematics Assessment and Placement Services (MAPS) includes the following tests:

#### **Assessment and Placement Services (ETS/APS)**

APS is a battery of two mathematics tests (Computation, Elementary Algebra) normed on a national population of entering two-year college students, and is used for placement into entry level courses.

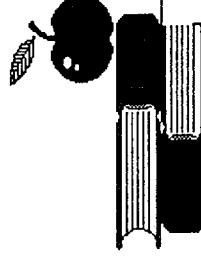
Each test is a multiple choice test that is 20 minutes in length. Test booklets are reusable, sell for \$2.25 each, and can be locally scored. Alternate forms are available.

#### **Descriptive Tests of Mathematics Skills (ETS/DTMS)**

The DTMS consists of a battery of four mathematics tests (Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra) normed on a national population of entering two- and four-year college students and is used for placement into entry level courses.

Each test is a multiple choice test 30 minutes in length. Each test provides 3-5 subscores. Test booklets are reusable, sell for \$3.50 each, and can be locally scored. Alternate forms are available.

Contact: Lucky Abernathy - Director  
College Board  
45 Columbus Avenue  
New York, NY 10023  
(212) 713-8057



### THE MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MAA)

#### **MAA Placement Test Program (MAA/PTP)**

The MAA/PTP is a battery of eight mathematics tests (Arithmetic and Skills, Basic Algebra, Advanced Algebra, Algebra, Trigonometry and Elementary Functions, Calculus Readiness, High School Prognostic, and Calculator-Based Tests) designed to assist two- and four-year colleges with the development of on-campus placement programs to assess the mathematical skills of entering students.

Each test is a multiple choice test, varying in length from 25 to 32 items. An initial subscription fee of \$175 is required of the institution with a yearly renewal fee of \$125. The fee allows for unlimited reproduction of any of the tests. Tests and materials change on an annual basis.

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The Mathematical Association of America  
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