

SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON OF APPROVED ABILITY-TO-BENEFIT TESTS

(Information obtained from publishers' printed materials and company representatives)

NOTE: Even though the Descriptive Tests of Language Skills and Descriptive Tests of Mathematics are on the approved lists, the tests are no longer available from the publisher, thus are not included in this analysis.

	COMPASS	ASSET	CPAt	Accuplacer	Wonderlic Basic Skills Test	CELSA Used for ESL Only
Publisher	American College Testing Placement Assessment Programs, 2201 N. Dodge St., PO Box 168, Iowa City, Iowa 52243, Phone (319)377-1030, FAX (319)377-1790			The College Board, 45 Columbus Ave., New York, NY 10023-6992, Phone (405)842-9891, FAX (405)842-9894	Wonderlic Personnel Test Inc., 1795 N. Butterfield Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048, Phone (877)605-9499, FAX (847)680-9492	Association of Classroom Teacher Testers, 1187 Coast Village Rd., PMB 378, Montecito, CA 93108-2794, Phone (805)569-0734, FAX (805)569-0004
Areas Assessed and Passing Scores	Prealgebra/Numerical Skills Placement (25), Reading Placement (62), Writing Placement (32)	Reading (35), Writing (35), Numerical (33)	Language Usage (42), Reading (43), Numerical (41)	Reading Comprehension (55), Sentence Skills (60), Arithmetic (34)	Verbal (200), Quantitative (210)	English language skills (90)
Format	Computer adaptive (multiple choice). Networked or Internet based.	Paper and pencil (multiple choice). Scoring is DOS-based with Windows 95 or 98 compatibility. Stand alone PC, no networking.	Paper and pencil (multiple choice)	Computer adaptive or online (multiple choice)	Paper and pencil (multiple choice)	Paper and pencil (multiple choice cloze items)
Test Length	Untimed, approximately 1-2 hours	Timed, approximately 1 hour 40 minutes	Timed, approximately 1 hour 15 minutes	Untimed, approximately 1½ hours	Approximately 45 minutes	45 minutes
Target Audience	Students entering postsecondary education	Students entering postsecondary education	Students entering postsecondary, career, technical or proprietary education	Students entering postsecondary education	Ability-to-Benefit qualification, pre-employment screening, workforce development programs	Students entering postsecondary education and using English as a second language

	COMPASS	ASSET	CPAt	Accuplacer	Wonderlic Basic Skills Test	CELSA Used for ESL Only
Test Versions	DOS, Windows, and Internet Version	Four separate test forms: B2, C2, D2 and E2	Two forms, B and C	Online delivery	Verbal (VS-1 & VS-2) and Quantitative (QS-1 & QS-2)	Forms 1 and 2
Test Delivery	Designed for group or individual administration	Designed for group administration (Optional: may be administered individually)	Designed for group or individual administration	Designed for group or individual administration	Designed for group or individual administration	Designed for group or individual administration
Testing Location	On computer licensed to use COMPASS software	Materials are portable	Materials are portable	On any computer with internet access	Portable	Portable
Use of Calculators (4-function, graphic or scientific)	Allowed during all math segments	Allowed only during elementary algebra, intermediate algebra, college algebra and geometry tests	Not permitted	Pop-up calculator is available onscreen for problems on which it is appropriate.	Not permitted	NA
Scoring	Locally scored by COMPASS software. Scores available immediately after testing. Internet version stores data on ACT server	<u>Option 1:</u> Self-scoring test forms; hand tally. <u>Option 2:</u> Machine score with scanner. <u>Option 3:</u> Scanner and PC scoring. All versions: Results available shortly after testing is complete.	Locally scored by hand, except ATB scoring, which must be done by ACT. Regular scoring (and preliminary ATB) available immediately after testing; official ATB scores available within 72 hours.	Scored by Accuplacer. Software. Scores available immediately after testing. Internet version stores data on College Board server.	Score locally by keying in responses or using scanner; PC or internet based. Forwarded to Wonderlic for ATB verification.	Option 1 – Mail-in service Option 2 – Onsite electronic scoring
Customized Assessments	Schools may include up to 5 local measures & manually enter scores.	Schools may include up to 5 local measures & manually enter scores.	Not currently available	May enter other measures after testing is complete then regenerate report.	Not currently available	Places students in one of 7 levels of English proficiency.

	COMPASS	ASSET	CPAt	Accuplacer	Wonderlic Basic Skills Test	CELSA Used for ESL Only
Customized Student Data	Schools may create up to 30 local questions with up to 10 responses for each question, and up to 10 local questions with 4-digit numeric responses.	Schools may create up to 14 additional local questions.	Schools may add up to 10 local questions for student demographic or campus-specific information.	Includes mandatory questions on age, gender, ethnicity; may add unlimited items to be used in branching profiles or for service referrals.	Answer sheet gathers demographic data (optional). Answer sheet requires student & administrator signatures.	Demographics and educational background questions included. Schools may also ask up to 15 additional customizable questions (multiple choice with up to 9 responses)
Uploading to Campus-Wide Student Data Base	Yes. Automatic upload to ACT with internet version.	Yes, with microcomputer scoring & reporting only.	No	Yes, both online & networked.	Yes, d-base file that is exportable to any spreadsheet application.	Yes. Test scores, placement levels, and/or question responses can be exported to a delimited or fixed format ASCII file then uploaded either immediately in real time or later in a batch.
Reports	Entering Student Descriptive Report (no charge) Returning Student Retention Report (no charge) Student Advising Report Course Placement Service Underprepared Student Follow-up Report ESL Validity Study	Entering Student Descriptive Report (no charge) Returning Student Retention Report (no charge) Student Advising Report Course Placement Service Underprepared Student Follow-up Report	Research Summary Report Provided Annually	Score roster Course roster Placement roster Individual report Background reporting option (demographics) Enhanced customized reports	Bar graphs for scores compared to Ability-to-Benefit requirements General admissions report listing student competencies Individual report to students home address Summary listing, sorting & grouping candidates Quarterly report with copies to multiple administrators	Individual student report with ATB results Roster of students having tested Counseling report with full student information No roster reports listing test results when using CELSA for ESL placement but could be exported to Excel or similar software

	COMPASS	ASSET	CPAt	Accuplacer	Wonderlic Basic Skills Test	CELSA Used for ESL Only
Cost per 100 Students	<p>Annual fee per campus = \$450 3 test units per person @ \$3.90 x 100 = \$390 (Retests = \$.50 per unit) Total for 100 students testing one time = \$840 until 8/31/04, then \$870</p>	<p><u>Option 1 (self score):</u> Test booklets = \$147 Answer sets @\$3.55 = \$420-\$500 Total for 100 students testing one time = \$567-\$647 <u>Option 2 (machine score/scanner):</u> Test booklets = \$147 Answer sets @\$3.55 = \$420-\$500 Total for 100 students testing one time = \$567-\$647 <u>Option 3 (scanner/PC scoring):</u> Test booklets = \$147 Software license = \$450 Answer sets = \$340 Total for 100 students testing one time = \$937</p>	<p>Test booklets (2 forms) = \$135 Answer forms = \$290 Student Guides = \$44 Manual = \$6 Annual participation fee = \$170 Total for 100 students testing one time = \$645</p>	<p>No annual fee or software cost. \$1.45 per unit, 3 units per person per testing administration Must purchase minimum of 100 units, but administration may be spread across multiple campuses of same district. Total for 100 students testing one time \$1.45 x 3 x 100 = \$435</p>	<p>Free software. Composite (Verbal & Quantitative together): 100 = \$315. Verbal alone: 100 = \$215 Quantitative alone: 100 = \$215 Total for 100 students testing at one time: Composite = \$315 Separate tests = \$430 (Each unit contains test booklet, answer sheet, and all materials needed)</p>	<p><u>Option 1 (PC scored):</u> \$195 per year – covers 5 students (additional administrations \$5 each) Celscan software = \$600 per year Total for 5 students testing one time = \$795 <u>Option 2 (hand scored):</u> \$195 up to 60 students</p>
Special Features	Braille, Large Print & Audio versions available	Braille, Large Print & Audio versions available	Braille, Large Print & Audio versions available	Braille, Large Print & Audio versions available Self-leveling difficulty of questions based on right or wrong answers TABE score cross-walks	None for Ability-to-Benefit applications	Braille version available for both Forms 1 and 2. Computer delivered version can be magnified with zoom screen.