PLACEMENT TESTING PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Initially, the placement scores for the ASSET and COMPASS were established based on faculty input and a review of cut scores collected from community and technical colleges in Washington as well as other states.

On an annual basis, as part of the AUP assessment process, data is gathered to compare students’ course placement based upon their test scores with their final course grades. This data is reviewed with instructional faculty and Student Development staff. Modifications to the cut scores are made upon their recommendations.

Examples of the impact of assessment/review process:

- Cut score revisions
- Creation of a new math course – BASED 54
- Implementation of a minimum 2.0 gpa prerequisite to proceed to the next course (both math and English)
- Prerequisite checking process implemented through the Student Development Center – counselors and educational planners contact students to re-advising all who have not met this gpa prerequisite prior to the start of each quarter.) This process involves a significant collaborative effort among several departments including Instruction, Enrollment Services, Testing Center and Student Development.
- Collaborative team effort involved between Instructional and Student Services staff to make these changes possible.

** Please note, there are other processes (ie. math AUP process) that are also involved to make these changes possible.
Testing
The college conducts the COMPASS, COMPASS-ESL, and ASSET placement tests to help individuals identify skill levels in reading, writing, and math. Test scores are used to help ensure accurate placement in English and math courses. Placement testing is waived for those who have satisfactorily completed one or more quarters of college-level work, which includes English and math with a 2.00 or above GPA. For information on the tests and applicable fees, call the Student Development Center at (360) 417-6340 or toll-free in Washington at (877) 452-9277. Peninsula College is an official GED (General Educational Development) Center for administering GED tests. The GED test is designed for adults 19 years of age or older who have not completed high school and wish to receive a Certificate of Educational Competence by successfully completing the GED Test. Students between the ages of 16 and 18 must submit either a high school “Request for Approval to Test-Test General Educational Development (GED) Certificate” or a “Notarized Statement/Letter for Home School Students Taking the Test for Certificate of Educational Competence (GED Test)”.