

Office/Contact: Office of Academic Affairs
Source: SDBOR Policy 2:3, System Undergraduate Admissions
Link: <https://www.sdbor.edu/policy/documents/2-3.pdf>
Associated Forms: Reading Placement Exemption Form

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Policy and Procedure Manual

SUBJECT: Placement in Remedial Reading

NUMBER: 2:28

1. Purpose

This policy and its procedures are in place to ensure understanding and standardized procedures for placing students in the remedial Reading course.

2. Policy

a. Placement in the remedial reading course helps ensure that students have the necessary reading skills to be successful in college level courses. The remedial reading course provides students with multiple strategies to promote comprehension skills, develop vocabulary and enhance metacognition to become strategic readers.

b. It is the policy of the University to adhere to the following:

- i. All entering students seeking an associate or baccalaureate degree must provide valid ACT scores (within the last five (5) years) or must take the ACCUPLACER examination in the areas of writing skills, mathematics, and reading.
- ii. Students (first-time and transfer) who score 17 or less on the ACT in reading are required to successfully (RS grade) complete READ 041, Reading for College Success, within their first 30 credit hours.
- iii. Transfer students with fewer than 30 credits completed and without ACT scores are required to complete the ACCUPLACER examination in the area of reading.
- iv. Students may challenge their placement by taking the ACCUPLACER examination. Students are allowed two (2) challenges. If the student's score is 85 or greater on the ACCUPLACER Classic Reading examination or 261 or greater on the ACCUPLACER Next Generation Reading examination, the student will not be required to complete READ 041.
- v. For all students with valid SAT scores, the SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing (formerly "Writing plus Critical Reading") will be equated to ACT reading scores.
- vi. Students with a valid Smarter Balance English Language Arts/Literacy score which meets the SDBOR threshold for English placement or greater are exempt from taking READ 041. Smarter Balance scores may also be used if on the high school transcript.

- vii. The requirement to complete READ 041 will be waived if a student transfers in a comparable three (3)-credit reading course with a grade of RS or C (or equivalent) or better.
- viii. Transfer students with 30 or more credits completed and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above at the time of transfer are exempt from completing the remedial reading course (regardless of ACT/SAT scores).
- ix. The University shall provide accommodation regarding the provision of ACCUPLACER examinations pursuant to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

3. Procedures

- a. For students who participate in New Student Orientation (NSO), their placement status is reported on the Profile Sheet. For other students, the academic advisor notifies students of their reading placement status based on the students' profile stored in WebNow.
- b. To challenge the reading placement, students contact the SDSU Testing Center and are required to pay the challenge fee and complete the ACCUPLACER Reading Test Package. The score is entered into the Student Information System.
- c. The SDSU Testing Center can set up a remote ACCUPLACER test for students who are unable to complete the test on campus. In this situation, the SDSU Testing Center will issue the student a voucher that can be used to test using SDBOR approved ACCUPLACER branching packages. There may be an additional cost to test at a testing site not affiliated with the SDBOR. If a student is unable to test at any of the listed ACCUPLACER test sites, they may test remotely with a virtual proctor. There is an additional cost for this service and a computer with internet access and a webcam is required.
- d. Transfer students who meet either exemption (identified in 2.b. above), must complete the *Reading Placement Exemption Form* (available on the University website and the MyState portal) and submit it to the SDSU Testing Center. Thereafter, the reading registration hold will be removed and the student will be notified.

4. Responsible Administrator

The Provost, or designee, is responsible for ad hoc review of this policy and procedures. The Provost will consult the Academic Affairs Committee and Faculty Senate for any substantial changes to the policy.

SOURCE: Approved by President on 02/05/2018. Revised; Approved by President on 11/6/2018. Interim Revisions Approved by President 06/11/2020. Revised; Approved by President on 10/02/2020.