

# Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences

## COMPASS Testing

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **How do I register for the COMPASS test?**

Visit <http://www.aultmancollege.edu/newadmissions/WhatsNext.aspx> or call 330-363-6347.

#### **What is the cost for the COMPASS test and when do I pay?**

There is a \$20 non-refundable fee to take the COMPASS test. The fee must be received by the College by the close of business **3 days** before you are scheduled to take the test. You may pay by cash, check, or money order, or by credit card by calling 330-363-6347 between 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday.

#### **Where should I park on testing day?**

Please park in the Aultman Hospital parking deck and enter the College through the Main Entrance on Dartmouth Ave. Aultman College is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Aultman Education Center. Bring your parking ticket with you to be validated for free parking.

#### **What is the COMPASS test?**

The ACT COMPASS (Computer-Adaptive Placement, Assessment and Support System) test is an untimed, computerized test used by colleges and universities around the country to evaluate incoming students' skill levels in specific subject areas.

#### **What subjects will covered on the COMPASS test?**

COMPASS provides measures of key skills in writing, reading, and mathematics.

#### **How can I prepare for the COMPASS test ahead of time?**

You may view sample test questions and test-taking tips at: <http://www.act.org/compass/student/index.html>

#### **Do I need to bring anything with me on the day of the test?**

No. Aultman College will provide you with a calculator, pencils, and scratch paper. You will take the test on a computer in the our computer lab. There will be a maximum of 30 students testing at one time. Please note that no food or drinks are permitted in the computer lab. Cell phones must be silenced and stowed. The desktop surrounding the computer must be clear of all personal belongings.

#### **When will I receive my COMPASS test results?**

You will be provided with a print-out of your COMPASS scores immediately upon completion of the test.

#### **Do I need a particular score to pass the COMPASS test?**

The COMPASS test is not a pass/fail test. Scores are used for course placement in the areas of writing, reading, and mathematics and may also be used for academic advising purposes.

#### **How will my COMPASS test results be used?**

Your COMPASS results will be used to place you in appropriate college level courses or developmental (preparation) courses.

#### **What is the difference between college level courses and developmental courses?**

Developmental courses (identified by a 0 as the first number, i.e., 090) are designed for students who need additional basic skills training or academic preparation prior to enrolling in college level courses. You must be enrolled in a degree program to be eligible for Federal Student Aid (FSA) funds for developmental coursework. Note that developmental course credits do not count toward your degree credit requirement, nor do they count toward your grade point average (GPA).

**Am I mandated to take the developmental course based on my COMPASS test scores?**

If you test into a developmental (090) course and do not have transfer credit for a college level course in that area, you must take the developmental course.

**What if I test into a developmental course even though I have transfer credit for a college level course?**

Transfer credit cannot be taken away based on a COMPASS test score. You will receive the transfer credit; however, be aware that your COMPASS score indicates your current skill set. If your score places you in a developmental course, you are at risk for educational difficulties in your program if you do not take the developmental course, then re-take the subsequent college-level course for which you may have transfer credit. Your success and realization of this potential risk is so important to us that you must sign a waiver form should you decide to override your placement test score and rely solely on your transfer credit.

**Can I retake the COMPASS test if I don't like my score?**

The COMPASS test is part of the pre-registration process and can only be taken once at Aultman College.

**Does Aultman College accept COMPASS scores from other colleges?**

Yes. We will accept scores from a test that was taken during the six month period prior to the Aultman College application deadline. Submit an official copy of your score results, signed by the administering college or university, to the Admissions Office.

**Who can I call if I have additional questions?**

For more information, please contact our Admissions Office at 330-363-5075.

