

I want to apprentice but do not meet the academic requirements. Does that mean I cannot be an apprentice?

The SATCC is pleased to be offering access to Accuplacer/MyFoundationsLab. Through computer-based skill assessments and online learning, it helps people to improve their literacy and math skills. Most commonly, clients who do not have the necessary entrance requirements, or need to upgrade various skills during technical training, will be referred to the program.

1. What is the Entrance Examination (Accuplacer)?

Accuplacer is a computerized diagnostic testing system, which provides information about your level of skill and accomplishment in literacy (reading comprehension), and numeracy (mathematics).

2. What type of a testing system is Accuplacer?

Accuplacer is a computerized test with several test sections: Reading Comprehension, Arithmetic, and Elementary Algebra (as required). The computer software uses the information that you supply through the personal information questions at the beginning of the test to determine which question should be your first question. If your response to the first question is correct, the software will select a more difficult question next. If your response to the first question is incorrect, the software will select a less difficult question next. Once you have answered a series of 17 to 20 questions, the software determines your score.

The test instructions are easy to understand. An examination administrator/proctor will always be present to help you. Although the examination is administered on a computer, no previous experience with computers is necessary. However, it is advisable that you familiarize yourself with using a computer and keyboard.

3. Is there a charge for taking Accuplacer?

No. It is provided at no cost for Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) apprentice applicants.

4. Is taking the Accuplacer examination mandatory?

Yes, for those assessed by the SATCC to require it. When an applicant's transcripts do not possess the academic qualifications or an apprentice has a partial math fail from technical training, Accuplacer will be used to assess and ensure the apprentice's preparedness for technical level training.

5. How do I make arrangements for Accuplacer testing?

You must write the test within **30** days of the date on the letter that was sent to you referring you for Accuplacer testing. The test must be administered in a controlled, monitored environment by a proctor. Please note that the proctor cannot be a relative or live in the same household as you. Test location options include, but are not limited to: facilities listed below, pastor/church offices, high school/community colleges testing centres, or town hall offices. Contact the Accuplacer Coordinator to arrange the date and proctor for the Accuplacer examination. Our testing facilities include SIAST, S.I.I.T, or Saskatchewan Regional Colleges.

6. Do I need to bring anything with me to my testing appointment?

Yes, you must bring the letter of referral you received and photo identification.

7. Is the test timed?

Typically the multiple-choice tests take about 30 to 45 minutes per test, to a maximum of two hours.

8. Can I prepare for the Accuplacer examination?

Yes, we strongly recommend that you prepare for your test so that your scores will reflect your true level of ability, especially if you have been out of school for a few years. You cannot 'pass' or 'fail' Accuplacer. However, to make sure that the test scores accurately represent your skill levels, you may wish to review basic concepts in reading, grammar, arithmetic and algebra before taking Accuplacer.

The following websites may help you prepare for Accuplacer. You may also want to search for additional sites with practice questions.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4Q6_tMTkbb&feature=youtu.be

This is a Youtube video explaining Accuplacer.

www.testprepreview.com/accuplacer_practice.html

This site has several useful practice tests.

www.accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/accuplacer-tests

This site provides explanations and sample questions from Accuplacer in Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, Reading Comprehension, Sentence Skills and WritePlacer.

9. Is there an app for Accuplacer?

Yes. Accuplacer has created an Official Accuplacer study app by The College Board for Apple products. The app can be downloaded from iTunes at a cost of \$1.99.

****Please note that SATCC will not purchase the app for your use in preparing for the Accuplacer examination.**

The app is compatible with iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad. It requires iOS 4.2 or later. At this time, The College Board does not have a study app for Android or Windows mobile devices.

10. When do I get my results?

SATCC will notify you by letter of your results and the next step applicable to you.

11. What happens if I do not show up to write Accuplacer?

If you do not show up to write the examination, nor call to re-schedule the examination, SATCC will withdraw your application for apprenticeship as we assume you are no longer interested and you will not move forward with technical training.

12. What happens to my application if I meet the required benchmarks on Accuplacer for apprenticeship?

Your Accuplacer results will be verified and sent to the Trades Assessment Unit. If you reach the benchmarks for apprenticeship, and if all other admission requirements have been met, you will receive a letter indicating that we will continue with the registration of your file.

13. What happens to my application if I do not meet the required benchmarks on Accuplacer for apprenticeship?

If any of your results are below the required benchmarks, you will receive a letter indicating further work is required. SATCC will require that you work with the online software program, MyFoundationsLab. MyFoundationsLab equips students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in post-secondary classrooms.

If you need work on MyFoundationsLab, a letter with your passcode and all relevant information needed will be mailed out.

14. What is MyFoundationsLab?

Based on performance on the Accuplacer assessment, MyFoundationsLab generates a personalized learning plan for each student. This easy-to-use learning system offers targeted intervention, skills training mapped to the Accuplacer scores and measurable results.

15. Is MyFoundationsLab mandatory?

Yes. If MyFoundationsLab is not completed with the required Accuplacer exit examination, SATCC will withdraw the application and you will not move forward with technical training.

16. When does MyFoundationsLab have to be completed?

You must complete MyFoundationsLab within six (6) months.

17. Once MyFoundationsLab is completed, what is the next step?

Contact the SATCC office at 1-306-933-8476 to arrange for an Accuplacer exit examination date and location.

18. What happens to my application if I meet the required benchmarks for the MyFoundationsLab exit examination?

Your Accuplacer examination results will be verified and sent to the Trades Assessment Unit. If you reach the benchmarks for apprenticeship, and if all other admission requirements have been met, you will receive a letter indicating that we will continue with the registration of your file or you will now qualify to move forward with technical training.

19. What happens to my application if I do not meet the required benchmarks for the MyFoundationsLab exit examination?

If any of your results are below the required benchmarks, you will receive a letter from an SATCC Training Coordinator stating the next steps applicable to your registration or technical training options.