



Northern Virginia Community College ASSESSMENT AND PLACEMENT TESTING

I. Assessment of Basic Skills

As a result of requirements of the State Council of Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV), NOVA has adopted a policy that all students who wish to be admitted to a curriculum (program placed), or who have a grade point average of less than 2.0 after completing the first 9 credits at NOVA, must complete basic skills testing. This applies to all students who began their studies at NOVA during or after the fall semester 1993.

Purpose

Assessment in reading, writing and mathematics will help you understand what your strengths and weaknesses are in these areas. This information will help you select appropriate courses and increase your chances for success.

- **Before Admission to a Curriculum** — You must be assessed in basic skills (reading, writing, and mathematics) before admission will be granted to a curriculum (program placement). We encourage you to take the tests as soon as you apply to the College.
- **GPA Less Than 2.0 After 9 credits** — If your grade point average is less than 2.0 after you have completed your first 9 credits at NOVA, you must take the basic skills tests and see a counselor to have your academic plan approved.
- **No High School Diploma?** Regardless of how many credits you plan to take, you must be assessed in basic skills before enrolling if you do not have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- **Application** — You must submit an Application for Admission to the College, before you are tested.
- **Photo ID** — You will need a picture identification when you come to the Testing Center to take the tests.
- **Placement Tests** — Certain courses (English, math, some chemistry & music courses) require specific placement tests no matter how many credits you plan to take. (See Course Placement Testing, on other side).
- **More Information** — For more information contact the Testing or Counseling Centers (see other side).

Exemptions

You may be exempt from all or part of the required assessment of basic skills if you:

- have previously completed an associate degree or higher at a regionally accredited college or university.
- have credit for ENG 111 and/or 3 credits of college algebra or above through transferable college courses, Advanced Placement (AP), or CLEP.
- If you believe you are eligible for an exemption, please make arrangements to see a counselor or an appropriate division chair. Bring evidence of your scores or previous college experience with you. This needs to be entered into the computer unless your transcripts with college-level English and math have been officially evaluated.