

April 13, 2020

Dear Counselors and Community Partners,

We hope this email finds you safe and healthy. The lack of ACT testing this spring is on our minds. We have a plan as well as some additional information regarding this issue.

In response to the lack of ACT testing, Tennessee Board of Regents has established an unweighted 3.6 high school GPA as a cutoff that community colleges can use to determine college-level academic placement. Students who have an unweighted 3.6 high school GPA can register for college-level courses once students have completed the steps for admission regardless whether they have taken the ACT or not. We are currently using students' December cumulative unweighted GPAs as listed on their current transcripts. We ask that you send updated high school transcripts for students once transcripts are final in the summer.

We know there are many students who do not have an unweighted 3.6 GPA. Students who do not have an unweighted 3.6 GPA will need to have qualifying ACT scores or entrance test scores before they can register for classes. In place of the ACT, students can take Accuplacer as an entrance test.

Accuplacer is an entrance test option used by Pellissippi State as well as many other colleges throughout the United States. It is an untimed computer-based placement test that assess reading comprehension, writing, and math. Each section takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. You can learn more about Accuplacer by visiting our [Entrance Testing webpage](#). The test is free. Students are required to apply to Pellissippi State before they can sign-up for Accuplacer. Once Pellissippi State reopens and resumes Accuplacer testing, students can sign-up to take Accuplacer at any of our campuses

Students who do not have an unweighted 3.6 GPA and have not taken the ACT will need to sign-up to take all three sections of Accuplacer, reading, writing, and math. Some students have taken the ACT but do not have qualifying scores in one or more areas on the ACT for the courses they want to take. These students will need to only take sections of Accuplacer where their existing ACT scores are below the required cut-offs.

Once we reopen and resume Accuplacer testing, we will send out an additional email with specific instructions for how students can sign-up to take Accuplacer as needed. In the meantime, students planning on enrolling for Fall 2020 should proceed with completing the steps for admission as listed on the [Dual Enrollment webpage](#) in preparation for the fall semester.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions concerning the information in this letter or if you have any other questions regarding dual enrollment. Pellissippi State is here for our students and our community partners. We are committed to making sure that students who want to enroll in classes for Fall 2020 have an opportunity to do so. Thank you for everything that you do support dual enrollment and Pellissippi State.

Kind Regard,



Spencer Joy
Dual Enrollment Specialist
Pellissippi State Community College
sdjoy@pstcc.edu | 865.539.7349