

## COMPASS STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES

October 1, 2004  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
District Office – Board Room

### I. COMPASS Exemption

An electronic copy of the form used for placement into English was sent to all campuses and has been adopted by all.

The following concern was brought forth:

- *COMPASS Exemption: The schedule indicates that students are exempt from COMPASS if they have an associate degree or higher from an accredited U.S. college or university. The new exemption form, ADS 71, instructs Enrollment Services to give an English placement code of 4, for those with an associate degree to allow registration into ENG-1520. This is without regard to the completion of ENG-1510, or an equivalent, with a grade of “C” or better.*

The English department members stated that they were not aware of this associate degree exemption into ENG-1520 and that it is the responsibility of the department to make this decision.

It was suggested that a student exemption be given and not placement.

### II. MTELP Exemption

The following concern was discussed:

- *MTELP Exemption: Exemptions are the same as the COMPASS exemptions. There seem to be differing positions from counselors regarding an exemption from MTELP with non-U.S. bachelor degrees. Some have understood the “old” form and position to be that students would be exempt from MTELP and allowed to register for non-English or ESL courses.*

It costs \$145.00 for an evaluation for students who have a non-U.S. bachelor degree evaluation and concerns were raised regarding the price.

Students with a non-U.S. bachelor degree are given an exemption without placement at the Auburn Hills Campus.

It was noted that at other universities, students who have a non-U.S. bachelor degree must take the TOEFL test.

Doug Riddering stated that he and Mike Khirallah both agreed a student with a non-U.S. bachelor degree should not to be treated any different than a student with a U.S. bachelor degree.

An e-mail was read regarding why walk-in testing isn't feasible at the Orchard Ridge Campus and why continued support is needed for testing centers where walk-in could work. It was also noted that walk-in testing would be intrusive to the academic support programs and not manageable due to limited staff and space at the campus.

Currently, there are three different processes for placement testing here at OCC and each one of these areas has a different set of rules. These include:

- MTELP
- COMPASS English
- COMPASS Math

It was suggested that this item be tabled until a representative from ESL could attend the meeting.

### III. Prerequisites for Degree Holders from Non-U.S. Countries (see Assessment/Requisite Exemption form)

The form was reviewed by the committee and several changes were made. Item #5 on the form is still under discussion.

It was noted that students with non-U.S. degrees do have the necessary skills which have been demonstrated and their ability should not be challenged. The discussion involved the validity of transfer evaluations of non-U.S. student transcripts by ECE and WES services.

### IV. Math COMPASS/Placement

The following concern was brought forth:

- *Math COMPASS/Placement: Students with courses transferred from non-U.S. colleges are not included in the possible exemption or placement possibilities according to the schedule and the ADS 71 form.*

Reference was made to Item #6 on the Assessment/Requisite Exemption and the fact that you cannot just choose a course in the MAT area. In addition, this determination cannot be made from the ECE or WES



