



## Ability to Benefit General Notice

The Federal Department of Education requires that students who want to receive federal financial aid and who do not have a high school diploma or a GED demonstrate their "ability to benefit" from college level work. Consequently, Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) requires that such students take the COMPASS Test, which covers reading, English and mathematics. This is the same test that all students are required to take for academic placement.

The Ability to Benefit Test (ATB) is the COMPASS Assessment. To qualify for financial aid using an ATB Test, students without a GED or have not graduated from high school must meet the minimum scores on the COMPASS Assessment.

Prospective students applying for the PELL Grant and have neither graduated from high school nor received a GED are required to take the ATB Test. The following scores must be obtained:

Pre algebra/numerical 25

Reading 62

Writing 32

Students who have successfully completed six (6) credit hours toward their major at WCCCD will be exempt from the ATB requirements. Please contact the campus Financial Aid Office if you would like to have your academic history reviewed for this exemption.

To be eligible for federal financial aid a student must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Have a valid social security number
- Be in compliance with the Selective Service registration (male students only)
- Have "financial need" as determined by the federal methodology need analysis
- Have one of the following as part of his/her educational preparation:
  - High school diploma; or
  - General Educational Development (GED) certificate; or
  - Take the ATB Test offered at Wayne County Community College District and obtain a passing score – call the financial aid office for further information

A few rules and advice:

- You may take the ATB Test at the Downriver and Downtown Campuses only
- You must take and pass all three areas of the ATB assessment in a single testing experience
- If you don't pass all three tests on your first attempt you may study and retest as soon as you choose, but you must retest on all three areas even if you passed one or two
- Thereafter, if you don't pass on your second attempt you must wait three months before retesting
- Allow at least two hours for the test
- No calculators are allowed
- No translation dictionaries are allowed when testing for ability-to-benefit purposes
- If you do not pass the ability-to-benefit tests, consider studying for the GED at one of the District campuses
- If you have a documented disability, we will work with you and provide the disability resources to provide you with the approved accommodations
- Sample study questions are available on the District's website at [www.wcccd.edu](http://www.wcccd.edu). Select the student web page and then select prospective students on this web page. Then you will see the link for assessment testing
- The campus Financial Aid Office determines whether or not a student needs to take the Ability to Benefit assessment (COMPASS) and will provide the student with a referral form which the student will turn in at the time of assessment.

Days	Times	Location	Location
Monday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Downriver Campus	Downtown Campus
Tuesday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Downriver Campus	Downtown Campus
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Downriver Campus	Downtown Campus
Thursday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Downriver Campus	Downtown Campus
Friday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Downriver Campus	Downtown Campus
*Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Downriver Campus	Downtown Campus

\* During Final Registration Only

\*\* The COMPASS Assessment will be administered and monitored by an Independent Test Administrator (ITA). Educational Resource Consulting, LLC is the designated ITA.