

August 26, 2022

Hello and welcome to the new school year!

As we move into the 2022-23 academic year, I wanted to make sure that all of you are aware of recent changes to placement for ENG 101 at CWU. Moving forward, CWU will no longer use test scores to place students into ENG 101. This means your students will no longer need to take the Accuplacer. Instead, students will be asked to take a [directed self-placement survey](#) before registering for ENG 101.

This self-placement tool has been carefully developed over the past several years and is being used university wide. To take the self-placement survey, students should go to <https://www.cwu.edu/general-education/directed-self-placement>. This page includes a detailed description of the self-placement process, as well as a link to the self-placement survey itself. The survey takes about 30 minutes and must be completed in a single session. Students can take the self-placement survey on their own (no proctor is required).

The survey includes a variety of questions intended to gauge students' readiness for ENG 101. After completing the survey, students will receive a recommendation about whether AW1 (ENG 101) is the best choice for them at this time. Specific language is included in these recommendations for College in the High School students.

Please note: The recommendation is different for on-campus students and for College in the High School students because we do not currently offer a Stretch ENG 101 course through College in the High School. The possibility of offering Stretch ENG 101 through the College in the High School program is currently being explored but is not an option at this time.

While taking the self-placement survey, students will be asked to provide their school email address and a valid CWU ID number. College in the High School Students are encouraged to use any district-issued email address (it does not need to be a CWU email address). Since College in the High School students typically do not have a CWU ID before registering for ENG 101, CiHS students should type 10000000 into the section asking for a valid CWU ID number.

It is important to remember that this tool is designed as a self-placement tool, which means that the decision is ultimately up to students whether to listen to recommendation made at the end of the survey. Although it is strongly encouraged that students follow the recommendation at the end of the self-placement survey, it is ultimately each students' decision whether they are ready for ENG 101. Your school/district may set more strict requirements for who is allowed to register for the class at your school if you deem it appropriate.

As a College in the High School instructor, part of your job will be to help your students understand the new system and what the recommendations mean. Remind students that the recommendations are intended to make a suggestion based off students' readiness for ENG 101 and that deciding to register for ENG 101 against the recommendation of the self-placement tool means they are more likely to struggle with (or fail) the class. Ultimately, it will be up to you how you want to frame this conversation, but please remember that we are not doing students any favors by allowing them to register for a course that they are not ready for.

As this tool is relatively new, there may be changes made to it in the coming months. You will be made aware of any changes as soon as possible. In the meantime, don't hesitate to reach out to me at [AubolJ@cwu.edu](mailto:AubolJ@cwu.edu) with any questions that you have about this new tool (or anything else). Looking forward to another great year!

Best,  
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