

# Taking the DSP

The DSP is easily accessible by cell phone or other computer devices and is a course placement tool for courses that do not require a math score. One of the many ways to access the DSP is from the [Assessment homepage](#). The DSP falls under Course Placement.

NEW PLACEMENT TOOL - We have a new course placement tool called the [Directed Self-Placement \(DSP\)](#). The DSP can be taken from your cell phone or other online device and is an alternative to the Accuplacer reading test. [Follow this link for more information and to take the DSP.](#)

Currently, math placement scores still require the math Accuplacer test.

## Testing Requirements

- CNM ID or government-issued photo ID
- All personal belongings, including purses and cell phones, will be collected prior to entering the testing room. We encourage you to leave all your belongings at home or secure them in your vehicle.
- Additional requirements may exist per exam

[Schedule My Exam](#) >

## Assessments

All tests or assessments are available in-person unless indicated otherwise.

[Course Placement - Tests to get into the class\(es\) you want](#) v

### Contact

Email: [testing@cnm.edu](mailto:testing@cnm.edu)

### In-Person Testing

Offices will be closed for the following holidays:

- Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend: Jan. 14 - 16
- Saturday Jan. 21
- Memorial Day Weekend: May 27 - 29

### Main Campus Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Select the English/Reading link.

## Assessments

All tests or assessments are available in-person unless indicated otherwise.

[Course Placement - Tests to get into the class\(es\) you want](#) ^

### Accuplacer

**Note:** This assessment has a remote option.

The [Accuplacer](#) is for students who need to place into a course that is not listed below. Accommodated testing is available through the [Accessibility Services](#)

### Directed Self-Placement (DSP)

**Note:** These assessments are taken remotely.

- To meet [English/Reading](#) Prerequisites

Detailed instructions on taking the DSP are given, including the importance of making an informed selection.

### How to Complete CNM's Directed Self-Placement

**Step 1:** Complete CNM's [Directed Self-Placement survey](#). It is important that you answer survey questions honestly and accurately to ensure that you receive a recommendation that best meets your needs and abilities.

**Step 2:** Review the course descriptions and examples of assignments and student writing for IRW 0970, IRW 0980, ENGL 1110P, and ENGL 1110 below. Compare the four courses in the [ENGL and IRW Course Comparison Chart](#). Use these materials to reflect upon your skills, abilities, and comfort level.

Self-Placement IRW 0970 Description and Expectations

Self-Placement IRW 0980 Description and Expectation

Self-Placement ENGL 1110 Description and Expectations

Self-Placement ENGL 1110P Description and Expectations

**Step 3:** Using the recommendation you received in the survey and the information you reviewed in Step 2, select the course that:

- Meets your skills and abilities.
- Helps you work toward requirements for your [Program of Study](#).

As you choose a course to take, please keep in mind the importance of making an informed selection—one that seriously considers your survey results and your needs and abilities as a reader and writer. Choosing the appropriate class for your needs and abilities will set you up for success in your time at CNM.

**Remember that failing, dropping, or withdrawing from a class because it was not a good fit for you may affect your GPA, your financial aid eligibility, and/or your permanent academic record.**

Please call (505) 224-3243 or email us at [testing@cnm.edu](mailto:testing@cnm.edu) if you have questions regarding the DSP.

Take the DSP Assessment >

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The first DSP question confirms the student's understanding of the importance that questions are answered honestly and that course outcomes can affect GPA and Financial Aid.

There are a total of 18 questions.

#### Question 1

I understand the importance of answering the following questions honestly, using the supplied materials to choose a class based on my needs and abilities, and that course outcomes may affect my GPA, my financial aid eligibility, and will be a permanent part of my academic record.

- Agree  
 Disagree



Next



Students are given a placement recommendation based on their answers to the self-assessment questions.

Students are asked to review IRW and English course descriptions and assignment examples before making a final placement selection.

**Students must hit Continue in order to make a selection and complete the survey.**

**Placement Recommended**

based on your answers to the self-assessment questions, ENGL1110P might be a good course for you.

**ENGL 1110P Course Description**

Review the course descriptions and examples of assignments and student writing for IRW 0970, IRW 0980, ENGL 1110P, and ENGL 1110.

- [IRW 0970](#)
- [IRW 0980](#)
- [ENGL 1110P](#)
- [ENGL 1110](#)

Continue

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Students are then asked which IRW or English level is best for them and why.

**Students can register for any course meeting that prerequisite, even if they do not register for an IRW or English course.**

**Students MUST hit submit in order for their results to be submitted**

**Question 16**

Now that you have completed the DSP, which course do you feel is best for you?

- IRW 0970
- IRW 0980
- ENGL 1110P
- ENGL 1110

Next

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**Question 18**

Please explain why you selected this course and what helped you make your decision:

I selected this course because when I write, I do need help with finding what I can improve in, I would love additional support or I can understand what I need to improve in and extra guidance and suggestions!

Submit

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Once the DSP has been submitted, students will receive confirmation of the course level they have been cleared for.


**Students will also receive an email, sent to their CNM email address that includes the course level that was recommended to them as well as the course level they selected**



A screenshot of a confirmation email from CNM. At the top is a blue header with a white checkmark icon. Below the header, the text reads: "Wednesday, January 18, 2023 2:36:31 PM". The main body of the email says: "( [redacted] ), based on your course selection, you will be cleared to register for IRW 0970." There is a blue button labeled "IRW 0970 Course Description". Below that, it says: "Important: Write down this placement recommendation or take a screenshot or picture of this placement recommendation so that you will have it to register." At the bottom, it says: "Speak with an [Academic Coach](#) for further assistance with prerequisites and course placement." The footer contains three icons: a house icon labeled "Go Home", the CNM logo (Central New Mexico Community College), and an "X" icon labeled "Exit".

CNM Directed Self-Placement Survey

 CNM SharePoint  
To 

 This message was sent with High importance.

Greeting, ORTIZ, CLYDE,

Thank you for completing the Directed Self-Placement Survey.

- Based on your survey responses, it is recommended that you take **ENGL1110P**.
- After reviewing the course descriptions and examples of assignments and student writing for IRW 0970, IRW 0980, ENGL 1110P, and ENGL 1110, you have selected to take **IRW 0970**.
- Your survey results will be recorded by the end of the next business day. You will then be allowed to register for your selected course, and/or other courses having the same prerequisite and corequisite requirements.

Please speak with an [Academic Coach](#) for further assistance with prerequisites and course placement.

CNM Assessment Center

  Reply  Reply All

## What Does my DSP Placement Mean?

The DSP is still in its pilot phase so DSP scores are not yet included in course descriptions. The online [Placement Exam Score Guide](#), along with the confirmation students receive, will indicate the IRW or English course level the student has met.

In the example below, placing into ENGL 1110 meets the prerequisites for any class requiring IRW 0970 or IRW 0980. **Even if students do not register for ENGL 1110, they have still met the prerequisites for many other non-math courses, such as Intro to Psychology, History, etc..**

A placement into IRW 0980 meets all the prerequisites for classes requiring IRW 0970 as a prerequisite.

## Integrated Reading & Writing and ESOL

ACCUPLACER NEXT-GENERATION	ACT	SAT	Directed Self-Placement (DSP)	COURSE PLACEMENT Number in parentheses ( ) indicates old course number
		<b>Old Score:</b> Writing & Critical Reading (3/1/16 or earlier) <b>New Score:</b> Evidence-Based Reading & Writing (3/2/16 or later)		
<b>NG - Reading</b> Score of 209 or lower <u>OR</u> <b>WritePlacer</b> Score of 0	English 0-9	Old Score: 400-430 New Score: 200-230		IRW 0896 Accuplacer Test-Prep Class & Meet with an advisor OR ESOL 0996
<b>NG - Reading</b> Score of 210 – 237 <u>OR</u> <b>WritePlacer</b> Score of 1 to 3	English 10-13 <u>AND</u> Reading 12-15	Old Score: 440-470 New Score: 240-280	3.1	IRW 0970
<b>NG - Reading</b> Score of 238 – 256 <u>OR</u> <b>WritePlacer</b> Score of 4 to 5	English 14-15 <u>AND</u> Reading 16-17	Old Score: 480-520 New Score: 290-320	4.1	IRW 0980, ESOL 1001, ESOL 1010, ESOL 1020, ESOL 1030,
<b>NG - Reading</b> Score of 252 – 260 <u>OR</u> <b>WritePlacer</b> Score of 5	N/A	N/A	5.1	English 1110P (English 1101P) Composition I Plus (4 cr/hrs)
<b>NG - Reading</b> Score of 257 – 300 <u>OR</u> <b>WritePlacer</b> Score of 6 to 8	English 16 or above <u>AND</u> Reading 18 or	Old Score: 540 or above New Score: 330 or above	7.1	English 1110 (English 1101) College Level - No IRW required