



Township High School District 214 Question and Answer

Placement Test: November 3, 2007 Make-up Test: November 10, 2007

A. Who should take the Placement Test?

All students entering 9th grade in a District 214 high school in the fall of 2008 should take the test. If your child is not attending a high school in District 214, there is no need to take the test.

B. When does the Placement Test take place?

On SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2007, and a make-up test is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2007. Both test dates will be given from 8:00 a.m. to approximately 12:00 p.m. The doors will open at 7:45 a.m., and testing will begin at 8:00 a.m.

C. Where does my child go for the placement test?

Your child should test at the District 214 high school he/she will attend in the 9th grade. If you need further assistance as to which high school your child will attend, call Mary Quinn at 847-718-7665. A map of the District 214 high schools is shown on the back of this sheet with their addresses and phone numbers. Students should be picked up and dropped off at the following location for each high school:

- Buffalo Grove – Entrance 1, located off the east parking lot.
- Elk Grove – Main door in the front of the building.
- John Hersey - Park in the west parking lot and enter through the front doors. Students will be dismissed on the west side of the building. Do not use the circle drive in front.
- Prospect – Door #22 (by the cafeteria) on the west side of the building. Parents should park their cars in the west parking lot.
- Rolling Meadows – Students should be dropped off after the second stop sign in the front of the building and look for the curb sign marking the entrance.
- Wheeling – Enter the parking lot off of Hintz Road and enter through door #7 on the west side of the building.

D. Do I need to register my child for the Placement Test?

Registration is automatic when you enroll your child at a District 214 school at <http://enroll.d214.org> by Friday, October 26.

E. What should my child bring to the test?

- A calculator with the four basic functions (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division), plus a square root function for the mathematics portion of the test.
- Two No. 2 pencils with erasers (not mechanical pencils)
- A book to read if he/she completes the test early.

Please label all of your child's belongings. No portable electronics should be brought into the testing rooms. Cell phones are allowed but must be turned off during testing.

F. Why is it important for my child to attend the test?

We need consistent and current information on your child's knowledge, skills, and abilities, in order to place your child in classes that will allow him/her to have a successful first year in high school. We make placements in English, mathematics and science classes based on a number of factors including teacher recommendations, grades, test scores, and an essay for English placement. Additionally, test results will be used as criteria for placement in special programs, such as talent development, skills programs, and honors English and mathematics. We would appreciate it if you can emphasize the seriousness of the placement test. **Based on your child's scores, he or she may be required to participate in mandatory summer school.** If a student is too disruptive to complete the testing, you will receive a call to pick up your child.

G. Who should I contact if I have more questions about the placement test?

Contact the Assessment Center at the high school your child will attend.

H. What will my child do during the placement test?

He/she will complete the EXPLORE test that will provide information about his/her level of preparation in English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning, plus details about his/her interests, needs, and plans. Students will also be asked to write a brief essay.

I. What should my child do to prepare for the test?

You can find sample problems and more information about the EXPLORE test, by visiting www.actstudent.org/explore.

J. How can I enroll my child if we do not have Internet access?

- See the attached "Online Enrollment Help" sheet for enrollment dates at each high school.
- Computers will be available on November 3 and November 10 for parents to enroll their students.
- Go to your local library to use a computer.

K. What do I do if my child is currently receiving special education services?

The majority of special education students should take this placement test. District 214 receives a list of special education students from the middle/junior high schools. If your child needs special accommodations for testing, as required by an IEP, please contact the middle/junior high school to be sure that the correct information was passed along or contact the special education coordinator at the high school your child will attend. All final placement decisions will be made at the annual review during the spring of their 8th grade year.

L. What do I do if my child has a 504 designation?

District 214 receives a list of 504 students from the middle/junior high schools. If your child needs special accommodations for testing, please contact the middle/junior high school to be sure that the correct information was passed along or contact the Assistant Principal for Student Services at the high school your child will attend.

M. What do I do if my student has limited English skills?

District 214 receives a list of ELL students from the middle/junior high schools. Special tests in reading, writing, oral language, and mathematics appropriate to a child's proficiency in English will be given on November 3 only. Contact the ELL Coordinator at the high school your child will attend in the fall. Your child will need a yellow admission ticket to participate in the ELL testing.

N. How can my child get placed into Honors English?

District 214 high schools offer a variety of English courses for students with varying interests and abilities. The freshman honors course is suggested for highly motivated students who demonstrate an aptitude for broader and deeper study in the areas of literature, writing, and vocabulary. This course moves at a brisk pace and involves considerable work outside class. Emphasis is placed on reading with depth and insight, as well as writing a variety of essays involving a high level of literary analysis. Placement decisions are made by the English/Fine Arts Division Head at each high school. Factors that influence a division head's decision are primarily the EXPLORE Reading score and the middle school teacher's recommendation, and the EXPLORE English, writing placement scores, grades in language arts courses and work ethic. Questions about placement should be directed to your high school's English/Fine Arts Division Head.

O. Do I get placement test information back?

Yes, in January or February you will receive information on your child's performance. These scores are used for placement and are not part of the student's permanent record.