

NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM R. Scott Ralls, Ph.D. President

March 21, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Presidents

Chief Academic Officers

Chief Student Development Administrators

System Administrators Testing Coordinators

FROM: Sharon Morrissey, Executive VP for Programs & Chief Academic Officer

Cynthia Liston, Associate VP, Policy Research & Special Projects Arthur Hohnsbehn, ACIO-Chief Architect, ERP, Special Projects

RE: North Carolina Diagnostic Assessment and Placement (NC DAP) Test Update and

Implementation Information

This memo provides important policy and implementation information for the North Carolina Diagnostic Assessment and Placement (NC DAP) assessment.

As you know, the NC DAP is a custom assessment that aligns directly to the state's new developmental curricula. The *Developmental Education Initiative's* State Policy Team recommended creation of the NC DAP in 2011 in order to create a more robust tool to accurately identify students' developmental needs. After a competitive procurement process, the State Board of Community Colleges approved a contract with College Board in 2012. The NC DAP's content, design, and proficiency levels have been developed in consultation with approximately 175 faculty and staff within our state throughout the past two years.

Math Assessment

On February 25, 2014, College Board released the revised Math portion of the NC DAP. The new NC DAP Math test provides assessments that match the content of the developmental math modules DMA 010 – DMA 060. The test is now available in three configurations, each costing one ACCUPLACER unit: one covers DMA modules 010 - 060, one covers DMA modules 010-030, and one covers DMA modules 040-060. The latter two versions allow more flexibility for re-testing. There is also a paper/pencil version of standalone modules that colleges may offer to re-test on a single module.

CC14-010 Email

Due to technical changes in the way College Board is reporting scores, Fast Reporting (auto downloading) test scores into Colleague will not be available until April 30, 2014. Therefore, the required implementation deadline for using the Math portion of the NC DAP test for student placement is now May 1, 2014.

Math Placement

Unless a student has been placed into curriculum courses under the Multiple Measures for Placement Policy, students must satisfy all pre-requisites for curriculum math courses by enrolling in and successfully completing all modules that they do not place out of on the NC DAP. Any required DMA modules must be taken sequentially, i.e., DMA 020 before 040, not vice versa.

As described in a System Office memo released Dec. 18, 2013 and Numbered Memo CC14-001 dated Jan. 22, 2014, assessments for DMA 070 and 080 are no longer part of the NC DAP. Therefore, results of the DMA 060 assessment are now used for placement into MAT 121, MAT 161 and MAT 171. Students enrolling in these courses must successfully complete or place out of all modules up to and including DMA 060. For those students who do not place out of DMA 060, the following applies:

- Students enrolling in MAT 121 must enroll in and successfully complete DMA 060.
- Colleges have two options for students enrolling into MAT 161/171:
 - Colleges may require students to enroll in and successfully complete DMA modules 060, 070, and 080, or
 - Colleges may require students to enroll in and successfully complete a new condensed version of DMA 060, 070, 080 called DMA 065. This is an 8-week, 2credit module that is now available in the CCL with an effective date of Summer 2014. DMA 065 has been added as an alternative pre-req for MAT 161 and 171.

Reading & English Assessment

The Reading & English assessment will be made available to early adopter "pilot" colleges the first week of April 2014. This portion of the NC DAP is a holistic placement test that comprises 30 Reading multiple-choice questions, 20 Revising/Editing Writing multiple-choice questions, and the WritePlacer essay. Students may re-test on the combined multiple-choice portion or the essay portion separately. The multiple choice test is one ACCUPLACER unit and the WritePlacer is two units.

Reading & English Placement

Students will be placed into DRE or ENG 111 courses based on a combined composite score as follows: (50% of Reading multiple choice score) + (20% of Revising/Editing Writing multiple choice score) + (30% of Essay score) = Composite Score.

Recommended composite cut scores will be taken to the State Board in May 2014 after which time the assessment will be released to all colleges. IT staff at the System Office will provide workflow information for entering scores and placement information into Colleague.

System Office IT staff will be working with College Board on a web-based auto download process for these scores to automatically populate Colleague, but the automatic download will not be in place for students enrolling Fall 2014.

Colleges may use the Reading & English assessment for placement in Fall 2014; colleges are required to use it for placement in Spring 2015.

Testing Below the Floor

Students who score a one (1) on the NC DAP math test for DMA 010 have scored "below baseline" which means they may not be ready for the developmental math sequence. Colleges that offer MAT 050 may place "below baseline" students into that course. However, many colleges are switching to alternative Basic Skills-supported courses, such as Math Sense – a course developed through Basic Skills state leadership funds. The advantages of these courses are that they are free to students and do not use a student's financial aid resources.

There will also be a "below baseline" composite score for the Reading & English assessment that means a student may not be ready for DRE 096. The "below baseline" cut score will be finalized in late April and taken to the State Board for approval in May along with the other Reading & English cut scores. There is also a new Pre-DRE 096 course that has been created through Basic Skills state leadership funds. This course's curriculum will be shared Spring 2014 with all interested colleges.

Based on federal Adult Basic Education requirements, students who are referred to a Basic Skills course must take an additional test, for example TABE or CASAS, to determine if this placement is accurate. If a student's performance on the additional test indicates that the student is above Basic Skills proficiency level, the student must be enrolled in DMA 010 or DRE 096. It is recommended that this additional measure be administered quickly to finalize a student's placement without significant delay.

NC DAP Testing Policies

The following are NC DAP policies that have been approved by the State Board. They have been in place since 2013; however, we are providing them again as a reminder since most colleges have not yet implemented the NC DAP.

- North Carolina community colleges will implement the North Carolina Diagnostic Assessment and Placement (NC DAP) test to assess students' English, reading and math college readiness skills. The test will be administered to students who do not meet the High School Grade Point Average or ACT/SAT placement criteria included in the Multiple Measures for Placement Policy adopted by the State Board of Community Colleges on February 15, 2013. Any college that opts to delay implementation of the Multiple Measures for Placement Policy as defined in that policy must administer the NC DAP for placement decisions until the Multiple Measures Policy is implemented.
- NC DAP scores will be valid for use for placement for five (5) years.
- NC DAP scores are transferable to other colleges with permission of the student.
- Colleges must develop and implement processes to validate student identification for testing.

- Colleges must determine their own retest policies.
- Students must satisfy all developmental pre- or co-requisites as indicated by test scores.

Communicating about the NC DAP to Students

College Board estimates the entire NC DAP (both Math and Reading & English combined) will take approximately 4 hours. As shared during the February regional meetings with testing staff, for those who need both portions, the NC DAP working group recommends separating the test into two 2-hour sessions – one for Math and one for Reading & English – in order to provide a break for students.

The System Office has created a flyer that provides information about the new test for students. It has been reviewed by colleges and is being finalized by the System Office communications staff. It will be distributed to colleges in an electronic format that includes customizable space for colleges to add local information about testing locations, re-test policies, etc.

NC DAP Review and Practice

Colleges should encourage, and have the option to establish policies that require, students to prepare for the NC DAP prior to taking the assessment or re-testing. Research within and outside of NCCCS has shown that many students benefit greatly from test preparation in terms of reduced developmental course requirements.

College Board has created options to support NC DAP test preparation including sample questions and a web app available for purchase by students. Additional information and access to these resources is available on the College Board's NC DAP account site.

In addition, at the NC DAP regional forums in February there were suggestions to create additional resources that could help students prepare for the assessment. For example, we will be asking math faculty to help identify topics on the Kahn Academy website that match the content of the math assessment. Wake Tech also has created free online courses that cover DMAs 010-050; as student from any college may enroll.

Technical Implementation Information

System Office IT staff have created the attached revised version of the "Developmental Education Initiative Diagnostic Assessment Implementation Guide" that was sent to the colleges in April 2013 (Attachment A). This guide addresses technical aspects of recording NC DAP scores and placing students into or out of developmental math modules. The following changes have been made to the implementation guide since last year's version, and the guide provides instructions on how to perform these tasks:

- 1. With the release of the re-configured NC DAP math assessment, the number of tests has been reduced from 8 to 6. The 6 tests will be DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, DMA 050 and DMA 060. The NONE and NONC screenshots for DMA070 and DMA080 have been removed.
- 2. The cut scores for DMA 010 DMA 060 have been changed to 7.

- 3. A cut score of 7 or above on the DMA 060 test will award non course equivalency for DMA 060, DMA 070 and DMA 080. (Cut score change based on Standards Verification process in December 2013.)
- 4. The Credit Type on NONE was changed to "PTC" (Placement Test Credit). The PTC credit type will exclude the by-passed developmental work from appearing on the academic transcript. If your college uses a different credit type for by-passed developmental courses, please follow your local policies.

NC DAP Test Identification Numbers

As the System Office communicated to colleges last year, the preferred test identification number for the NC DAP is a student's Colleague number preceded by the college's 3-digit college code (see Attachment B). The reason a college must append its college code is because two colleges (or more) within our system may assign the same Colleague number to a student and all colleges are now part of the same College Board master testing account. If a student tries to enter a Colleague number that's already been used by another student within NCCCS, the College Board testing platform will not allow the student to test.

The field for test numbers will be fixed at 10 characters (3-digit college code + 7-digit Colleague number) to help reduce entry errors.

The upload process removes the 3-digit college code before importing a test score into Colleague and if the 7-digit Colleague number matches an existing student's Colleague id, the test results are imported into Colleague.

For students who don't have a Colleague number, colleges should use the tester's driver's license (or identification card) number preceded by the two letter postal code for the state issuing the license, for example, NC6755558. (Please note that some state's driver's license numbers are alphanumeric and/or longer than 10 characters. The field will allow both numbers and letters; however, any characters in excess of 10 should be left off.)

Because these test scores do not have a Colleague number, they will not be matched and imported into Colleague through auto uploading. If a student subsequently enrolls and is assigned a Colleague number, his test results may be manually retrieved (by identification number or name) and entered into Colleague.

Please note that colleges must NOT use Social Security Numbers as a test identification number due to federal FERPA privacy rules related to student information.

More Information and Contacts

College Board's NC DAP account site provides Power Point presentations and archived webinars that provide more detailed information and training about the NC DAP's design and components, resources to support students with accommodations, testing practices, and NC DAP account set up information.

For questions about testing policies, contact Cynthia Liston at listonc@nccommunitycolleges.edu.

For questions about NC DAP college account access and set up, contact Karen Yerby, NC DAP System Administrator, at yerbyk@nccommunitycolleges.edu.

SEM/CL/cb

Attachments

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CC14-010 Email



Developmental Education Initiative Diagnostic Assessment Implementation Guide

February 2014

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1 Overview

New developmental math diagnostic tests have been developed by the College Board. To implement these new tests in the Colleague system, new processes have been developed to perform the tasks below.

- Import the test data from College Board
- Manage the test data
- Report the test data to Data Warehouse

This document provides guidelines on how to perform these tasks.

2 Define Data for Development Math Diagnostic Test

2.1 Define Data for Importing DMA Test Data

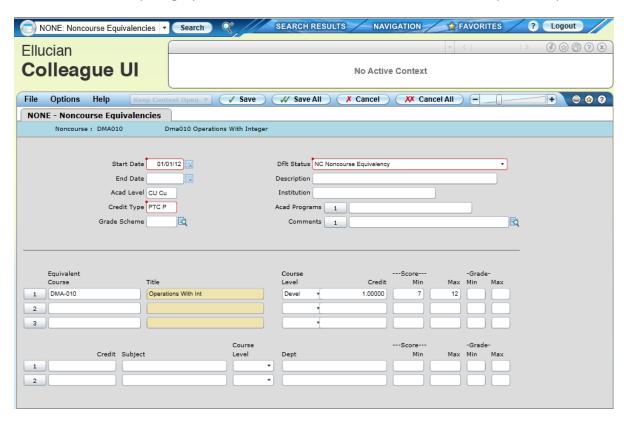
In order to automatically import or manually enter the developmental math diagnostic test data into the Colleague system, the non courses and non course equivalencies for the DMA tests need to be defined. There are six non courses defined for the DMA tests.

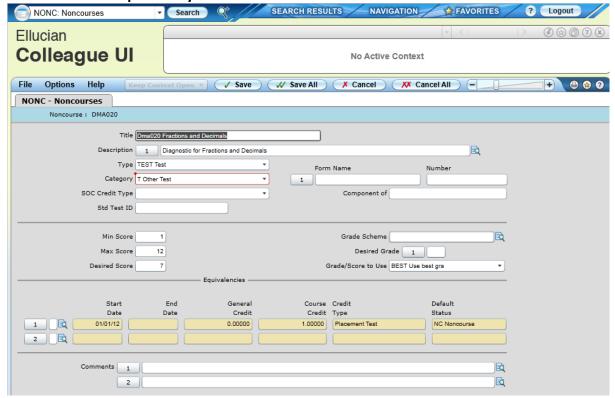
DMA010	Operations with Integers
DMA020	Fractions and Decimals
DMA030	Proportion/Ratios/Rates/Percent
DMA040	Expressions, Linear Equations
DMA050	Graphs and Equations of Lines
DMA060	Polynomials and Quadratic Application

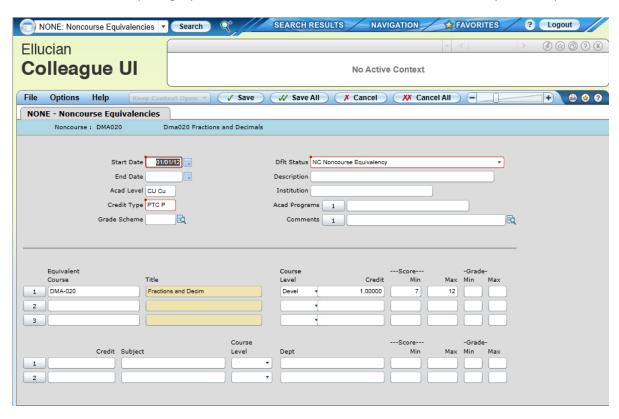
The test scores for the DMA tests range from 1 to 12. If the test score is 7 or higher, a non course credit is awarded. Therefore, there are six non course equivalencies defined also.

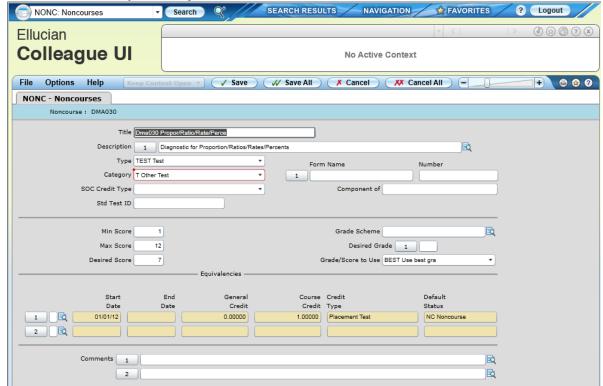
Use the NONC screen to define the non courses and use the NONE screen to define the non course equivalencies as shown in the screen shots below.

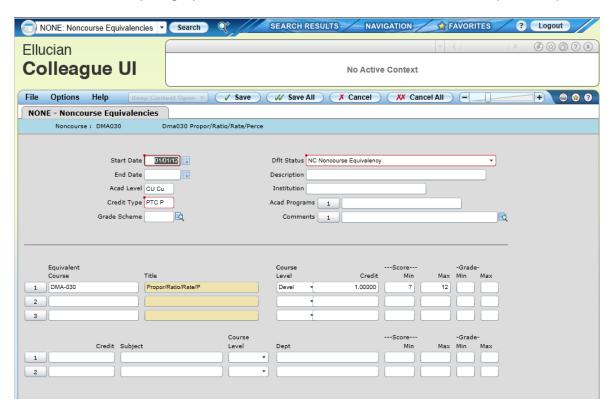
Non course and equivalency for DMA010 NONC: Noncourses ▼ Search Q SEARCH RESULTS ? Logout Ellucian Colleague UI No Active Context ▼ ✓ Save ✓ Save All ✓ Cancel ✓ Cancel All ← + 4 6 6 7 File Options Help **NONC - Noncourses** Noncourse: DMA010 Title Dma010 Operations With Integer Description 1 Diagnostic for Operations With Integers Type TEST Test Category T Other Test 1 SOC Credit Type Std Test ID B Desired Grade 1 Max Score 12 Desired Score Grade/Score to Use BEST Use best gra Course Credit Default Date Credit Credit Type Status 1 1.00000 Placement Test NC Noncourse 2 Comments 1 E 園 2

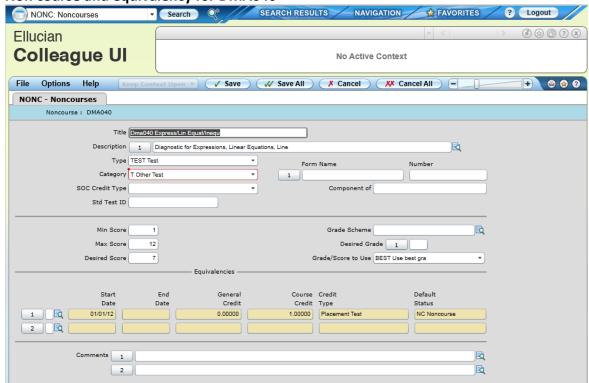


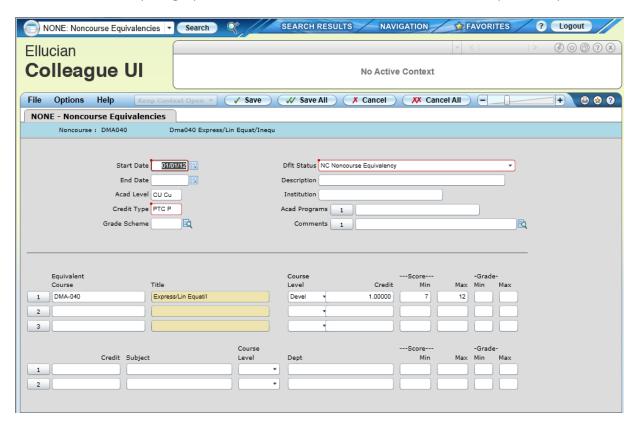


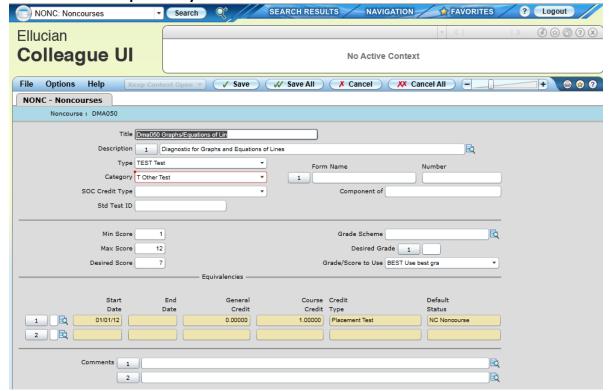


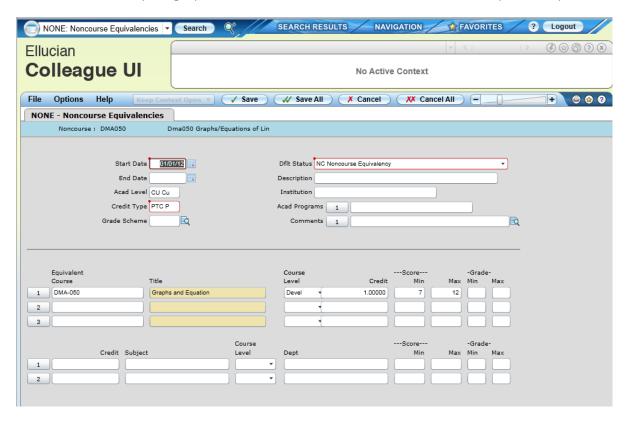


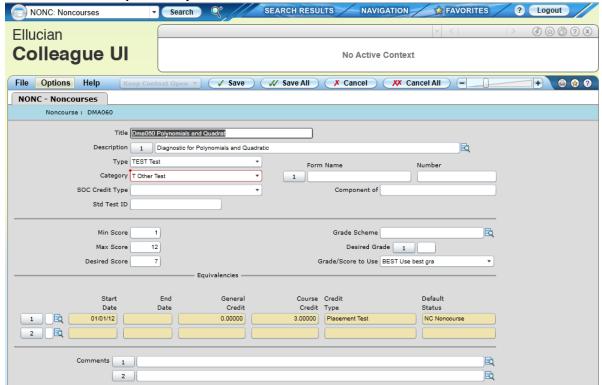


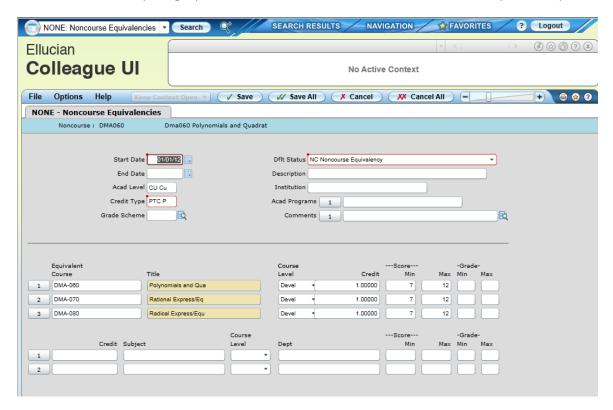












2.2 Define Data for Importing Other Test Data

College Board included additional tests in the test data files. The additional tests are

College Level Math, Reading Comprehension, Sentence Skills, ESL Language Use, ESL Listening, ESL Reading Skills, ESL Sentence Meaning, WritePlacer, WritePlacer ESL, CSP Basic (XP/2003), CSP (XP/2003), CSP Basic (Vista/2007), CSP (Vista/2007), CSP Basic (Windows7/2010), CSP (Windows7/2010).

These tests are existing ACCUPLACER tests. If these tests are offered, the non courses need to be defined using the non course names below.

<u>Test Name</u>	Non Course Name
College Level Math	ACCCLM
Reading Comprehension	ACCRC
Sentence Skills	ACCSS
ESL Language Use	ACCESLLU
ESL Listening	ACCESLLI
ESL Reading Skills	ACCESLRS
ESL Sentence Meaning	ACCESLSM
WritePlacer	ACCWP
WritePlacer ESL	ACCESLWP
CSP Basic (XP/2003)	ACCCSPBXP
- 6 - 1	

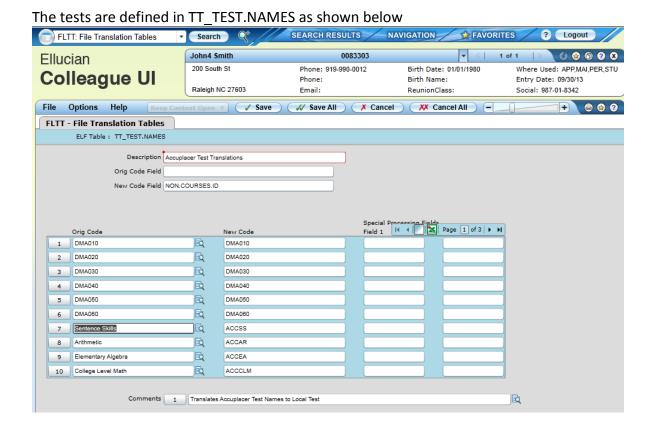
CSP (XP/2003) ACCCSPXP
CSP Basic (Vista/2007) ACCCSPBVIS
CSP (Vista/2007) ACCCSPVIS
CSP Basic (Windows7/2010) ACCBWIN7
CSP (Windows7/2010) ACCWIN7

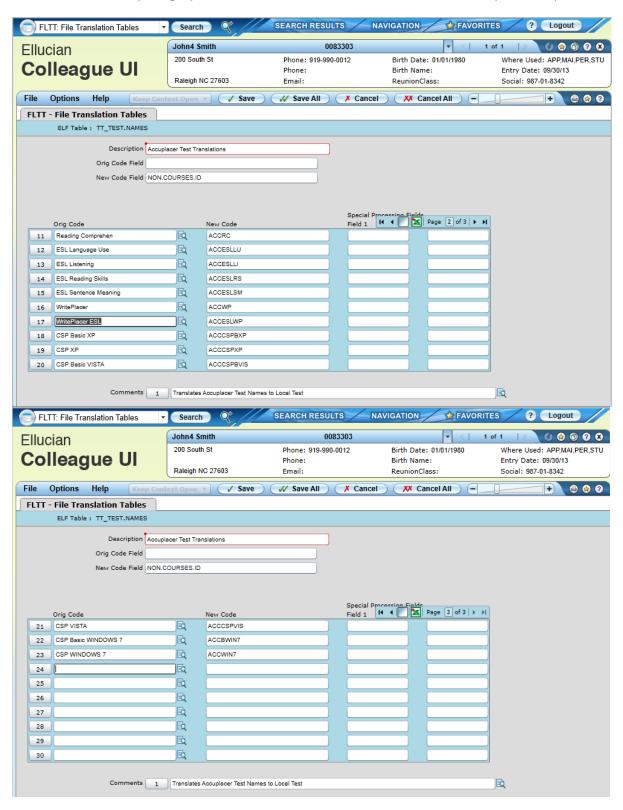
There is no state wide range of scores for awarding course credit for these tests.

2.3 Define Translation Table for Automatically Importing the Test Data

To automatically import the DMA test data, additional data need to be defined in Colleague. Use the FLTT screen (table name = TT_TEST.NAMES) to define all the tests need to be imported automatically. Besides the DMA tests, College Board included additional tests in the test data files. The additional tests are

College Level Math, Reading Comprehension, Sentence Skills, ESL Language Use, ESL Listening, ESL Reading Skills, ESL Sentence Meaning, WritePlacer, WritePlacer ESL, CSP Basic (XP/2003), CSP (XP/2003), CSP Basic (Vista/2007), CSP (Vista/2007), CSP Basic (Windows7/2010), CSP (Windows7/2010).



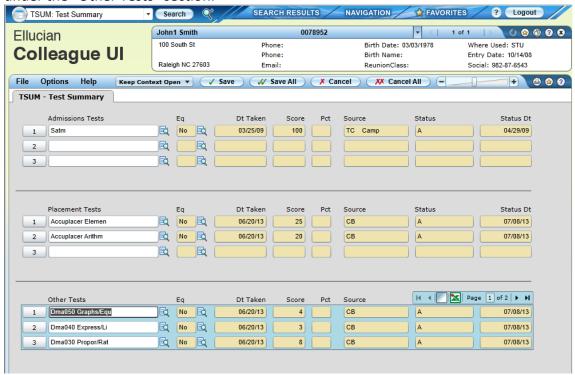


3 Manage Developmental Math Diagnostic Test Data

The developmental math diagnostic test data can be reviewed and managed from an existing TSUM screen and a new XDNS screen.

3.1 The Existing TSUM Screen

This screen lists all non course tests. The new developmental math diagnostic tests are listed under the "Other Tests" section.



3.1.1 Review Test Data

The test records can be accessed by entering a student's Colleague ID. The detailed test data can be accessed by detailing on a test record. The detailed test data is displayed on the TEST screen. If an equivalency record is available, the equivalency data can be accessed by detailing on the equivalency record. The detailed equivalency data is displayed on the NEQV screen. The equivalency data can be reviewed on the STAC and SACD screen also.

3.1.2 Enter new Test Data

New test record can be entered from the TSUM and the TEST screen.

3.1.3 Modify Existing Test Data

Existing test record can be modified by detailing to the TEST screen.

3.1.4 Delete Test Data

Existing test record can be deleted from the TSUM screen if there is no equivalency record associated with the test record.

3.2 The new XDNS Screen

This new screen is designed to manage the non course records for the developmental education initiative diagnostic assessment. The screen is added to facilitate the implementation of the multiple measures in the future. There are four sections in the screen.

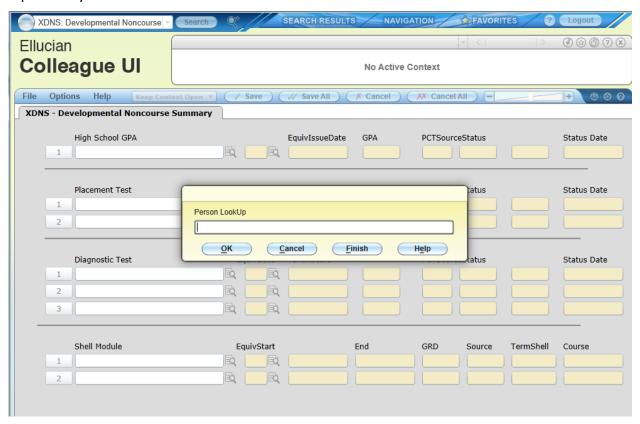
- GPA section: The GPA section is not used until the GPA project is completed later.
- Placement Test: The placement test section includes placement test records for SAT and ACT tests. The SAT/ACT measures for DMA are not implemented now.
- Diagnostic Test: The diagnostic test section includes the developmental math diagnostic test records. This section is used to review and manage the DMA test records.
- Shell Module: The shell module section includes shell module records. This section is used to review and manage the shell module records.



The XDNS screen can be accessed from the menu XSTM-XACC-XDNS or from the quick access.

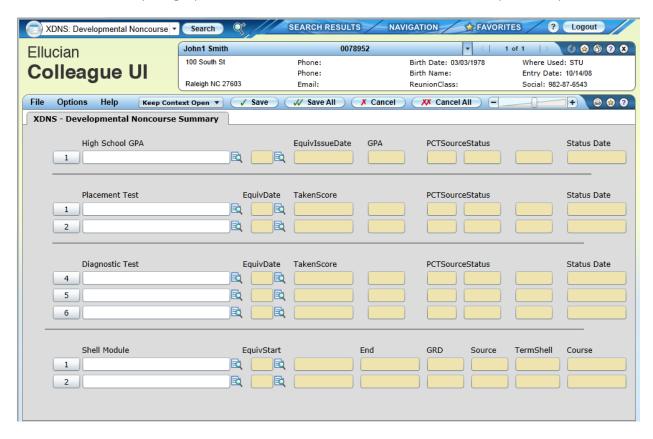
3.2.1 Review Test Data

The test records can be accessed by entering a student's Colleague ID. The detailed test data can be accessed by detailing on a test record. The detailed test data is displayed on the TEST screen. If an equivalency record is available, the equivalency data can be accessed by detailing on the equivalency record. The detailed equivalency data is displayed on the NEQV screen. The equivalency data can be reviewed on the STAC and SACD screen also.

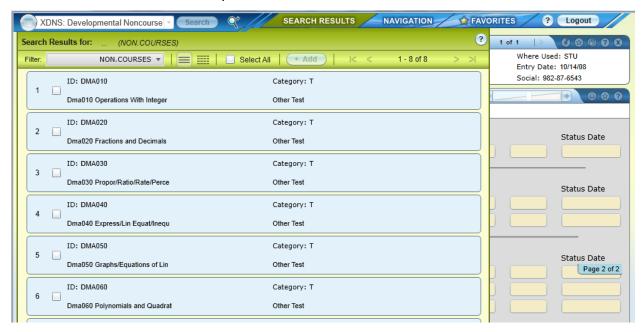


3.2.2 Enter new Test Data

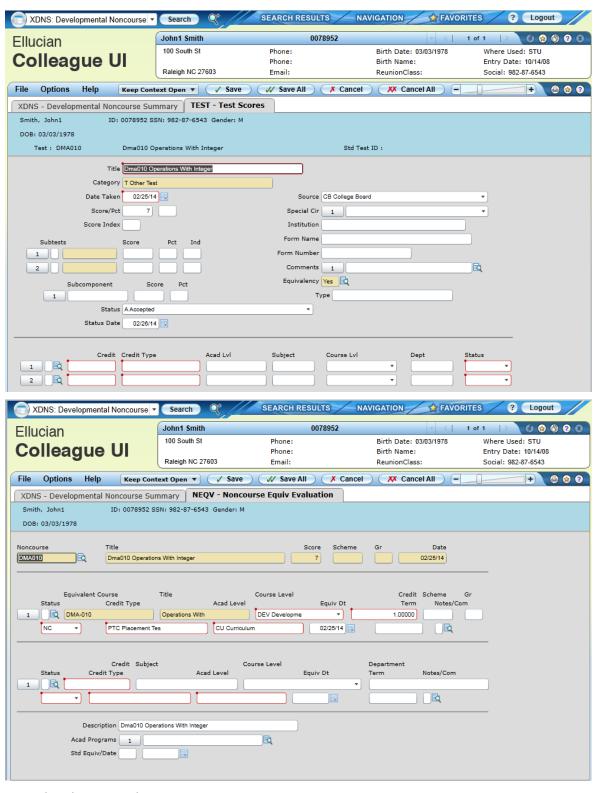
New test record can be entered from the XDNS and the TEST screen.



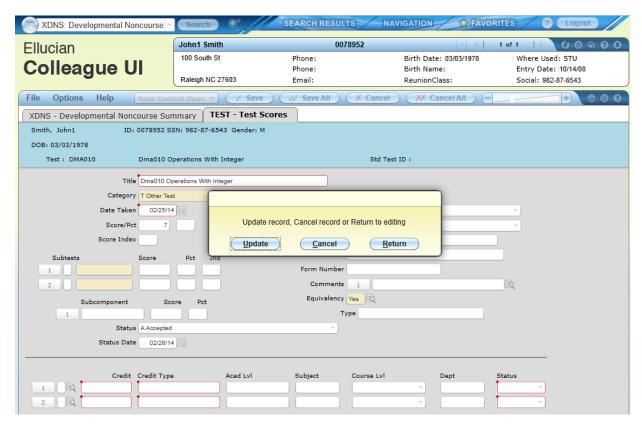
Enter DMA... to access the lookup screen and select the DMA test to add.



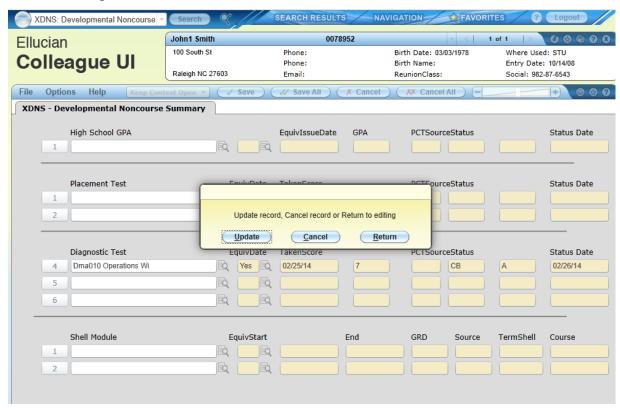
Add the DMA test data on TEST.



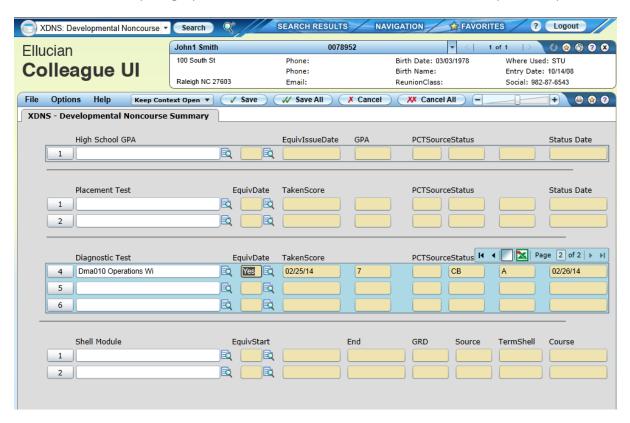
Save the change and return to XDNS screen



Save the change on XDNS screen.



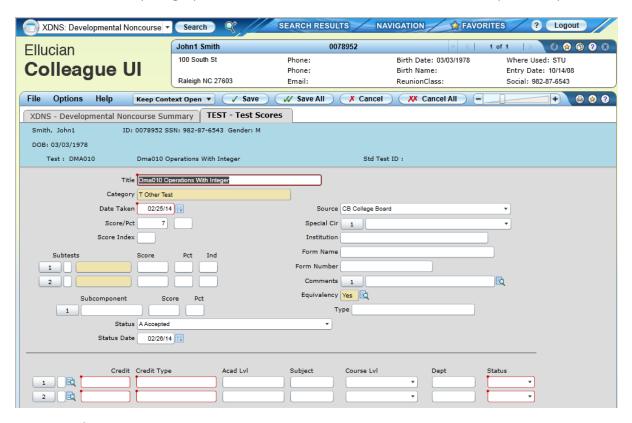
Enter the XDNS screen again to verify the test record is added.



3.2.3 Modify Existing Test Data

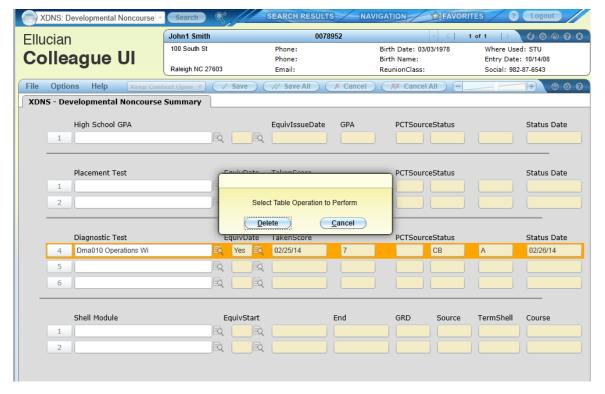
Existing test record can be modified by detailing to the TEST screen.

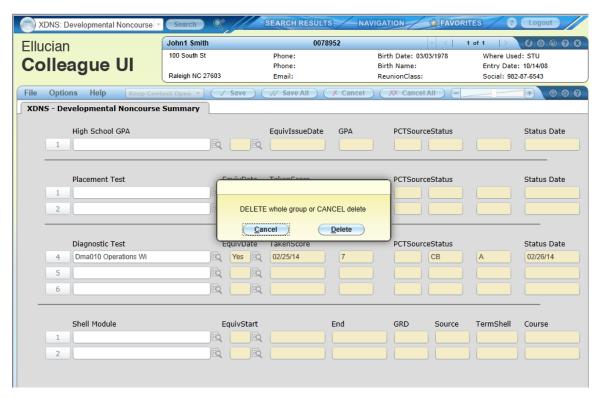




3.2.4 Delete Existing Test Data

Existing test record can be deleted from the XDNS screen.

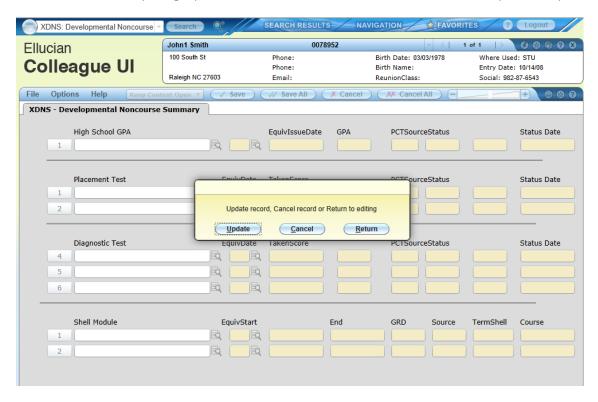




The test record is deleted.



Save the change on XDNS.

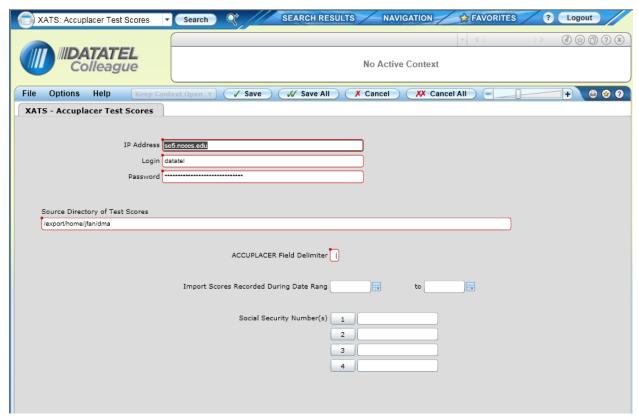


4 Automatically Import Developmental Math Diagnostic Test Data

The existing import process for ACCUPLACER has been modified to automatically import the developmental math diagnostic test data from the College Board test files.

4.1 Colleges who currently use the ACCUPLACER import process

Please ensure that the College Board test files are sent to the location in the college's network specified under "Source Directory of Test Scores" in the XATS screen. Please contact the College Board if assistance is needed to configure the location for the College Board test files.



No additional actions are required.

4.2 Colleges who currently don't use the ACCUPLACER import process

Please reference the following document to set up the ACCUPLACER import process in a Colleague environment.

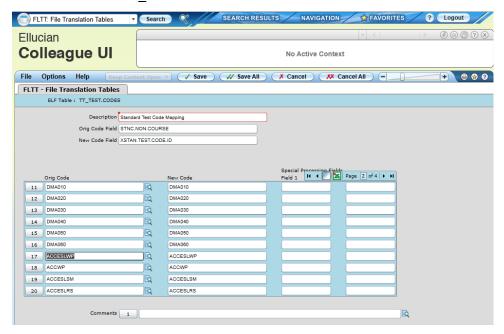
"ACCUPLACER Test Score Import Enhancement September 2010 Version 1.3"

http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/CIS Docs/docs/STUDENT/ST UG ACCUPLACER.pdf

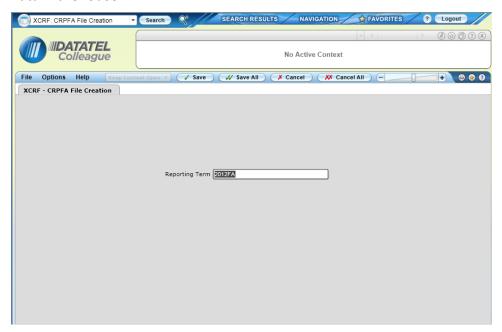
Please ensure that the College Board test files are sent to the location in the college's network specified under "Source Directory of Test Scores" in the XATS screen. Please contact the College Board if assistance is needed to configure the location for the College Board test files.

5 Report Developmental Math Diagnostic Test Data to Data Warehouse

The developmental math diagnostic test data are reported in the CRPFA report. To include the DMA test records in the CRPFA report, the DMA test records need to be added in the translation table TT TEST.CODES.



By running the XCRF process, the developmental math diagnostic test data are reported to the Data Warehouse.



No additional actions are required.

college_dim Attachment B

COLLEGE_CD	COLLEGE_NAME
800	South Piedmont CC
802	Asheville-Buncombe TCC
804	Beaufort County CC
806	Bladen CC
807	Brunswick CC
808	Caldwell CC and TI
810	Cape Fear CC
812	Carteret CC
814	Catawba Valley CC
816	Central Carolina CC
818	Central Piedmont CC
820	Cleveland CC
822	College of the Albemarle
824	Craven CC
826	Davidson County CC
828	Durham TCC
830	Edgecombe CC
832	Fayetteville TCC
	-
834	Forsyth TCC
836	Gaston College
838	Guilford TCC
840	Halifax CC
842	Haywood CC
843	Blue Ridge CC
844	Isothermal CC
846	James Sprunt CC
847	Johnston CC
848	Lenoir CC
850	Martin CC
851	Mayland CC
852	McDowell TCC
853	Mitchell CC
854	Montgomery CC
856	Nash CC
858	Coastal Carolina CC
860	Pamlico CC
861	Piedmont CC
862	Pitt CC
864	Randolph CC
866	Richmond CC
868	Roanoke Chowan CC
870	Robeson CC
872	Rockingham CC
874	Rowan-Cabarrus CC
876	Sampson CC
878	Sandhills CC
880	Southeastern CC
882	Southwestern CC
883	Stanly CC
884	Surry CC
886	Alamance CC
000	Alamanoe OO

college_dim Attachment B

888	Tri-County CC
889	Vance-Granville CC
890	Wake TCC
892	Wayne CC
894	Western Piedmont CC
896	Wilkes CC
898	Wilson CC