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BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE • CUNY



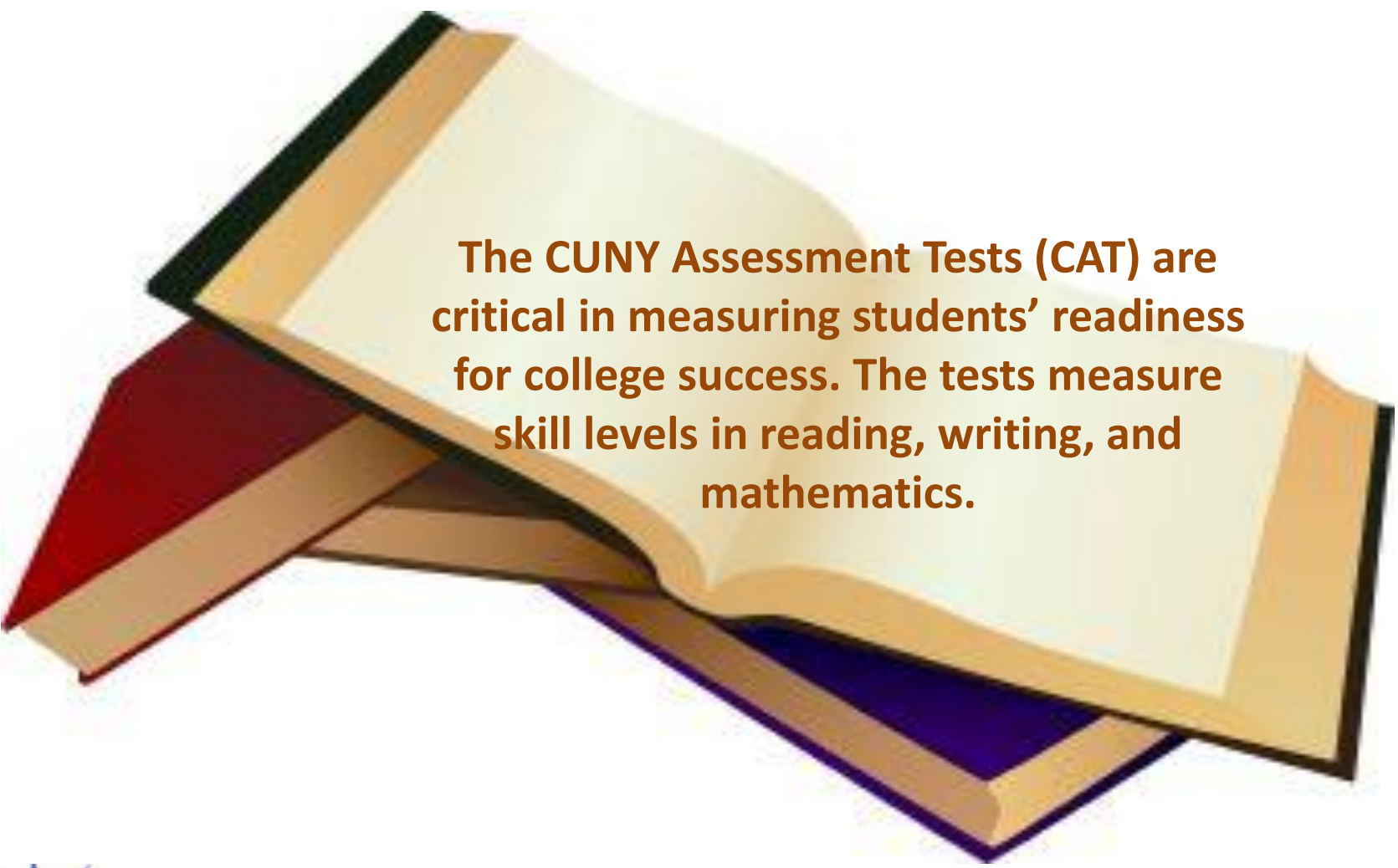
**CUNY ASSESSMENT TESTS**  
**Webinar for International Students**

# Today's Agenda



ITEM	Description
<u>1</u>	Overview of the CUNY ASSESSMENT TEST (CAT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ What is the CUNY Assessment Test</li><li>▪ Why students need to take the CAT</li><li>▪ Exemptions from having to take the CAT</li></ul>
<u>2</u>	Features of the Test <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Passing scores</li><li>▪ How the scores impact your degree progress</li><li>▪ What you need to do before you test</li><li>▪ What you need to do after you test</li></ul>
<u>3</u>	What you can do to prepare for taking the CAT <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Emphasis on practice</li><li>▪ Online practice material</li></ul>

# What Is The CUNY Assessment Test?



**The CUNY Assessment Tests (CAT) are critical in measuring students' readiness for college success. The tests measure skill levels in reading, writing, and mathematics.**

# Why Do Students Need To Take The CAT?

Incoming students are required to take the CUNY Assessment Tests. The scores are used to place students in classes at the right level. Students who score below minimum proficiency are placed in non credit remedial courses that are designed to prepare students for success in college-level courses. Non credit remedial courses **do not** count towards degree requirements.



# Exemption(s) From Having To Take The CAT

International Students can be exempt from the math portion of the CAT if they have a Bachelor's Degree . They can be exempt from all tests if they meet the exemption criteria below:

CUNY Subject	SAT	ACT
Math	530+ (math)	21+ (math)
Reading	480+ (Critical Reading)	20+ (English)
Writing	480+ (Critical Reading)	20+ (English)

**Note: TOEFL scores do not exempt you from the CAT**



# Features Of The Math Test

Subject	Features	Comments
<p><b>Math</b> - Measures your ability to perform mathematical tasks involving varying numeric concepts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <u>Elementary Algebra (12 Questions)</u></li><li>➤ Integers and rational numbers, absolute values, algebraic expressions, monomials and polynomials, equations, factors, graphing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Untimed</li><li>➤ Computer based</li><li>➤ Multiple choice questions</li><li>➤ Calculator is built in to the test BUT ONLY AVAILABLE on certain questions</li><li>➤ Scrap paper is provided</li><li>➤ No formula sheets allowed</li><li>➤ Cannot go back to an answer after you have chosen one</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <u>Or:</u></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <u>Passing score is a 57</u></li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <u>College Math (20 Questions)</u></li><li>➤ Algebraic operations, equations, coordinates, functions, exponents, roots,</li></ul>	



# Features Of The Reading Test

Subject	Features Questions About the Passages'	Comments
<p><b>Reading</b> - measures reading comprehension skill.</p>	<p><u>Main Idea</u>: The author's most important, general point about the topic</p> <p><u>Details</u>: Information that was <b>directly stated</b> in the text</p> <p><u>Inferences</u>: Drawing logical conclusions about something <b>not directly stated</b> in the text, but which is based on <b>evidence</b> in the text</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Untimed</li><li>➤ Computer based</li><li>➤ Multiple choice questions</li><li>➤ 20 Questions</li><li>➤ <u>Passing score is a 55</u></li></ul>



# Features Of The Writing Test

Subject	Features	Comments
<p><b>Writing</b> measures your ability to do college-level writing in English</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Timed: 90 minutes</li><li>➤ Read a passage of 250-300 words and respond by writing an essay</li><li>➤ You have 4 pages to write your essay</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ A paperback dictionary <u>or</u> thesaurus is allowed. Bilingual if preferred.</li><li>➤ Electronic dictionaries are NOT allowed</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Summarize the passage in your own words</li><li>➤ Pick a significant idea from the passage and explain its significance</li><li>➤ Explain its significance based on something you have experienced, read, or learned in school</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Can use a highlighter</li><li>➤ Can underline parts of the passage</li><li>➤ Write your essay in pen</li><li>➤ Passing score is a 56</li></ul>





# What Do I Need For The Test?

- Valid Photo ID (Passport)
- A student ID number (CUNYFirst EMPL ID number) & temporary CUNY ID (Writing Test Only)
- An online confirmation e-mail with the test date and time **OR**:
- An appointment slip from the Testing Office (Room S-103)



# What Are The Passing CAT Scores?

- Math – 57 or above in Elementary Algebra ONLY
- Reading – 55 or above
- Writing – 56 or above
- Any scores below these passing scores will place you in a non credit remedial course



# How Will The Scores Impact My Status At BMCC?

- The CAT is a test of placement, it is **not** an entrance exam.
- If you score below passing, it may take you longer to graduate as you will be required to take one or more non credit remedial courses.
- Note: You must take **12 credit hours** a semester to maintain F1 status.

# Cost of Non Credit Remedial Courses

Non credit remedial courses are NOT FREE!  
The number of hours the course meets in a day determines how much it costs.

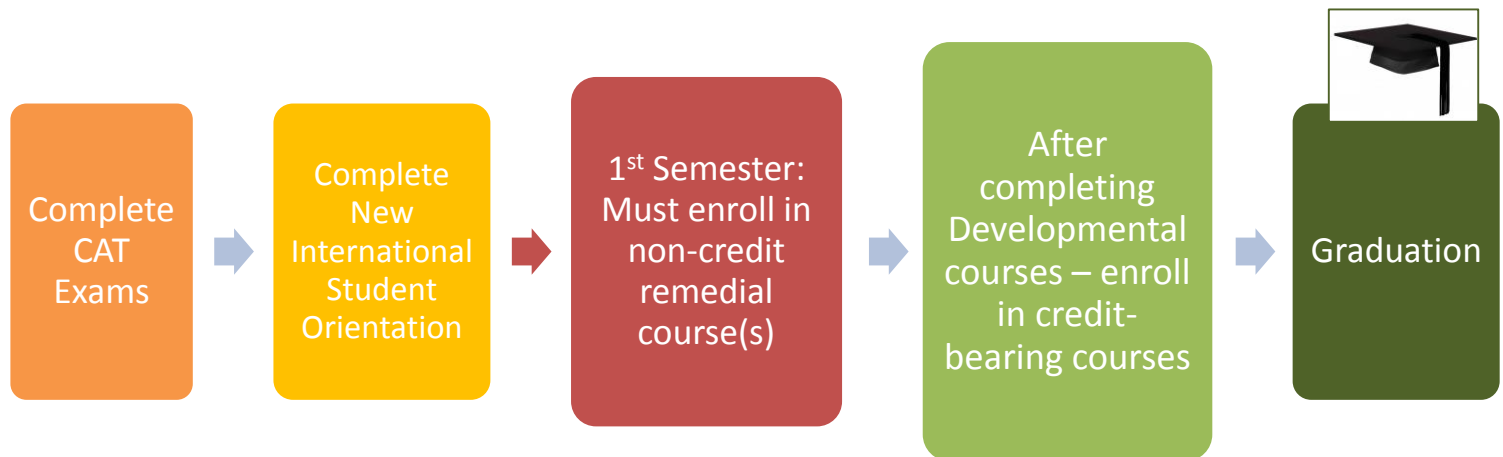


# Timeline For Graduation Based On Score(s)

Students who have **NO** non credit remedial course requirements timeline will look like this:



Students who have **1 or more** non credit remedial requirements timeline will look like this:



# What Do I Need To Do Before I Test?

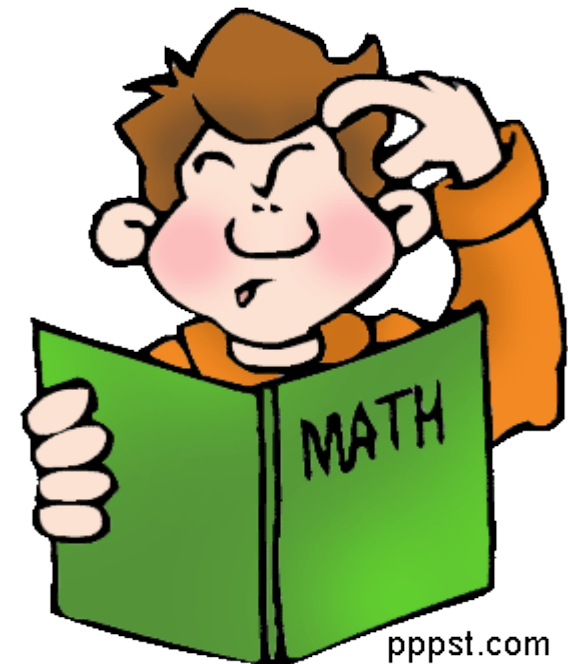
- If you are a student with a disability, you **MUST** bring in your documentation to the Office of Accessibility, Room N-360 **BEFORE** you test in order to receive testing accommodations
- Schedule a test appointment by going to [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/testing/registration](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/testing/registration) or by coming in person to the Testing Office, Room S-103.
- **Students outside the U.S. can schedule the appointment upon arrival in the U.S.**

Also...



# Practice! Practice! And More Practice

Practice Tests help students prepare for the CAT in all areas.



# Practice Links For The CAT

Subject	Links
<b><u>Math</u></b>	<a href="https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/accuplacer-tests">https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/accuplacer-tests</a> <a href="https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer">https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer</a>
<b><u>Reading</u></b>	<a href="https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/accuplacer-tests">https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/accuplacer-tests</a> <a href="https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer">https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer</a>
<b><u>Writing</u></b>	<a href="http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/cuny-assessment-tests/resources/PracticeExercisesforStudents82610.pdf">http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/cuny-assessment-tests/resources/PracticeExercisesforStudents82610.pdf</a> <a href="http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/cuny-assessment-tests/resources/StudentHandbookCATWebnew.pdf">http://www.cuny.edu/academics/testing/cuny-assessment-tests/resources/StudentHandbookCATWebnew.pdf</a>





# What Do I Need To Do After I Test?

- When you are finished, you will be given a card by the test proctor.
- Follow the instructions on the back of the card.
- You need to bring in your immunization records to **BMCC Health Services (Room N-380)**.
- You are required to go to International Student Orientation.



# BMCC Resources

Office	Contact Information
<b><u>International Student Services Office (ISSO)</u></b>	Room S-115N +1 212 776 7179 internationalstudents@bmcc.cuny.edu
<b><u>Testing Office</u></b>	Room S-103 +1 212 220 8085 testing@bmcc.cuny.edu
<b><u>Office of Accessibility</u></b>	Room N-360 +1 212 220 8180 disability@bmcc.cuny.edu

