

# Florida's

## Postsecondary Education Readiness Test - PERT

### Introduction

The purpose of Florida's Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) is to adequately assess your academic skills in mathematics, reading and writing through the delivery of three tests, one for each of these areas. The results of these tests are used to determine your placement into appropriate courses at your college.

**You cannot pass or fail the Placement Test** – it is only used to determine which courses are best for you. While it doesn't impact your grades, we encourage you to take the Placement Test seriously so that your course placement is accurate.

### How the PERT Works

The PERT assessments are computer-adaptive, which means the questions are chosen based on your answers to previous questions. You will not be permitted to change your answer once you have moved on to the next question or leave a question unanswered. However, all of the PERT assessments are untimed so you have as much time as you need to consider each question before submitting your answer. If you do not know the answer to a specific question, you are encouraged to try and answer the question by eliminating one or more of the answer options and then select from the remaining choices.

You will not be allowed to bring a calculator with you; however, for certain questions, a pop-up calculator will be available for your use. Check with your college testing center for what to bring or not to bring with you on test day.

Your scores on each assessment will be available immediately after you submit and your college will provide you with the results.

### Test Taking Tips

#### ☑ Prepare

Take practice exams and study areas of weakness.

#### ☑ Read the directions carefully

When you take the tests, make sure to take your time and carefully follow the instructions for each question.

#### ☑ Use reasoning when answering

1. Identify the key phrase in the question.

2. Try to find the correct answer before you read all the choices.
3. Eliminate the choices that you know are not correct.
4. Read all the choices and pick the best answer.

#### **Review**

Be sure to review each answer carefully before submitting. You will not be able to go back to any questions.

## **PERT Subject Area Tests**

There are three PERT tests, each with 30 questions. The content that is covered is listed below by subject:

### **Mathematics:**

- ☐ Equations— solving linear equations, linear inequalities, quadratic equations and literal equations
- ☐ Evaluating algebraic expressions
- ☐ Polynomials - factoring, simplifying, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing
- ☐ Dividing by monomials and binomials
- ☐ Applying standard algorithms or concepts
- ☐ Coordinate planes- translate between lines and inspect equations
- ☐ Focusing on pairs of simultaneous linear equations in two variables

### **Reading:**

- ☐ Discerning and summarizing the most important ideas, events, or information
- ☐ Supporting or challenging assertions about the text
- ☐ Determining the meaning of words and phrases in context
- ☐ Analyzing the meaning, word choices, tone, and organizational structure of the text
- ☐ Determining the author's purpose, and the relation of events in the text to one another
- ☐ Recognizing relationships within and between sentences
- ☐ Analyzing the traits, motivations, and thoughts of individuals in fiction and nonfiction
- ☐ Analyzing how two or more texts with different styles, points of view, or arguments address similar topics or themes
- ☐ Distinguishing between facts and opinions
- ☐ Evaluating reasoning and rhetoric of an argument or explanation

### **Writing:**

- ☐ Sustaining focus on a specific topic or argument
- ☐ Establishing a topic or thesis
- ☐ Demonstrating use of the conventions of standard written English, including grammar, usage, and mechanics
- ☐ Supporting and illustrating arguments and explanations

- ☒ Developing and maintaining a style and tone
- ☒ Synthesizing information from multiple relevant sources
- ☒ Conveying complex information clearly and coherently
- ☒ Representing and accurately citing data, conclusions, and opinions of others
- ☒ Establishing a substantive claim and acknowledging competing arguments or information
- ☒ Conceptual and Organizational Skills - recognizing effective transitional devices within the context of a passage
- ☒ Word Choice Skills - recognizing commonly confused or misused words and phrases
- ☒ Sentence Structure Skills - using modifiers correctly, using coordination and subordination effectively, recognizing parallel structure
- ☒ Grammar, Spelling, Capitalization, Punctuation Skills - avoiding inappropriate shifts in verb tense and pronouns; maintaining agreement between pronoun and antecedent; and using proper case forms, adjectives, and adverbs

### **The College Placement Test Online Resources:**

#### **Study Guide@**

[https://college.measuredsuccess.com/mscollege/help\\_resources/P.E.R.T\\_Study\\_Guide.pdf](https://college.measuredsuccess.com/mscollege/help_resources/P.E.R.T_Study_Guide.pdf)

#### **Practice Tests @**

<https://college.measuredsuccess.com/mscollege/practiceTest2/index.html>