CHEMISTRY (CHEM& 161) Placement Test

Who may take the test?  Students who want to place into CHEM& 161. Additionally, students must have passed MATH& 141 or MATH& 148 with a grade of at least 2.0, or received a more advanced placement on the COMPASS math test.

When can I test? Make an appointment at Student Assessment Services, RSB 76, or by calling 206-768-6767.

What is the time limit? 45 minutes

What is the test format? Paper/pencil, multiple-choice, 44 questions.

What do I bring? Government-issued photo ID.
Receipt showing payment of the $19.00 fee.
No personal calculator allowed; TI-30XIIs is supplied.
No books or references allowed; a periodic table is supplied.

How will I know if I passed? Students must score at least in the 60 percentile.
Come to Student Assessment Services office, RS 76, or see your advisor for score results.

Can I retest? This is a one-time only test. Review before testing.

How can I prepare? Review areas of study below and try the sample questions.

Areas of Study:

Chemistry Principles          Kinetics
Structure of Matter           Chemical Thermodynamics
Atomic and Molecular Theory   Oxidation and Reduction
The Elements                  Electro-Chemistry
Quantitative Relationship     Periodicity
Nuclear Chemistry             Equilibrium Systems
Aqueous Solution              Qualitative Analysis and Organic Chemistry

See this webpage for California Chemistry Diagnostic Test Sample Questions:


Student Assessment Services, South Seattle Community College, 1/10/07; revised CCN, 4/08; fee increase; calc note, link to samples: 9/2010