



Facts!

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General education courses are at the heart of the AA degree program. Students who matriculate into upper-level baccalaureate courses need a solid foundation in communications, humanities, mathematics, social sciences, behavioral sciences, and natural sciences. SACSCOC accreditation principles 8.1 and 8.2 emphasize the importance of a quality general education program and the need to assess and improve student achievement in general education disciplines:

[Principle 8.1]: The institution identifies, evaluates, and publishes goals and outcomes for student achievement appropriate to the institution's mission, the nature of the students it serves, and the kinds of programs offered. The institution uses multiple measures to document student success.

[Principle 8.2]: The institution identifies expected outcomes, assesses the extent to which it achieves these outcomes, and provides evidence of seeking improvement based on analysis of the results in...student learning outcomes for collegiate-level general education competencies of its undergraduate degree programs.

Chipola College policy also addresses the expectation of providing a high-quality general education program and assessing competency attainment. College Policy 2.050 states that the “general education program is designed to improve intellectual skills and develop understanding in the broad areas of liberal education in order to prepare students for effective personal living and responsible citizenship.” The policy also requires that college-level general education competencies be identified and that the college measure the extent to which students attain those competencies.

Assessing college-level general education competency attainment is a component of the Chipola Model for Planning, Assessment, and Sustained Success (CoMPASS). Chipola’s assessment model employs multiple and varied measures of competency attainment, one of which is student performance on the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Proficiency Profile tests. AA degree-seeking students are required to take the ETS Proficiency Profile tests during their sophomore year. The tests measure students’ skills in reading, writing, critical thinking, and mathematics. Following are descriptions of skills measured.

Reading

College-level reading questions measure students' ability to:

- interpret the meaning of key terms
- recognize the primary purpose of a passage
- recognize explicitly presented information
- make appropriate inferences
- recognize rhetorical devices

Writing

College-level writing questions measure students' ability to:

- recognize the most grammatically correct revision of a clause, sentence or group of sentences
- organize units of language for coherence and rhetorical effect
- recognize and reword figurative language
- organize elements of writing into larger units of meaning

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking questions measure students' ability to:

- distinguish between rhetoric and argumentation in a piece of nonfiction prose
- recognize assumptions
- recognize the best hypothesis to account for information presented
- infer and interpret a relationship between variables
- draw valid conclusions based on information presented

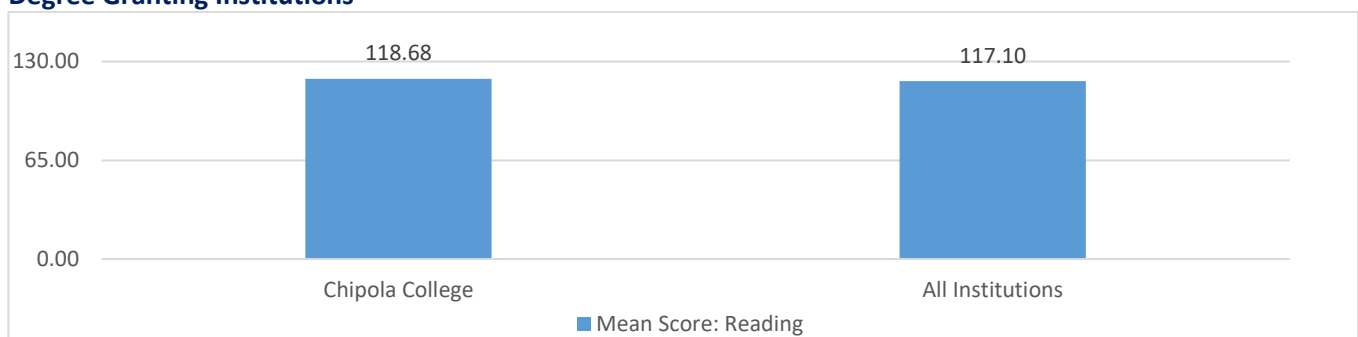
Mathematics

Mathematics questions measure students' ability to:

- recognize and interpret mathematical terms
- read and interpret tables and graphs
- evaluate formulas
- order and compare large and small numbers
- interpret ratios, proportions, and percentages
- read scientific measuring instruments
- recognize and use equivalent mathematical formulas or expressions

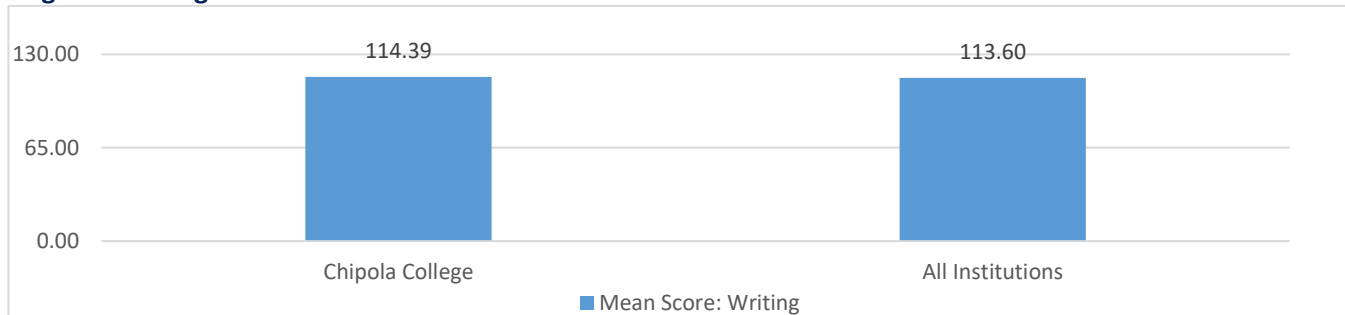
This month's issue of *Chipola College Facts!* is another in a series documenting Chipola students' performance on the ETS Proficiency Profiles tests. During the 2022-23 academic year, the mean scores for Chipola students in each of the general education skills areas exceeded the national means of associate degree granting institutions on the ETS Proficiency Profile tests. (The mean scores for all institutions are based on cumulative results from July 2022 through June 2023 and is reported by ETS.)

Comparison of Mean Scores on ETS Proficiency Profile Test in **Reading: Chipola College and All Other Associate Degree Granting Institutions**



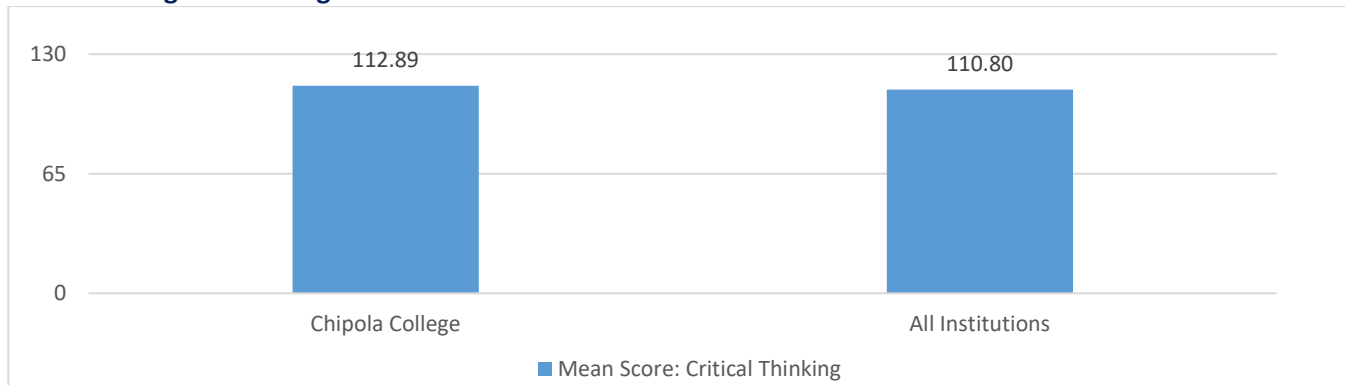
Note: Mean score of all institutions is based on cumulative results from July 2022 through June 2023 and is reported by ETS.

Comparison of Mean Scores on ETS Proficiency Profile Test in Writing: Chipola College and All Other Associate Degree Granting Institutions



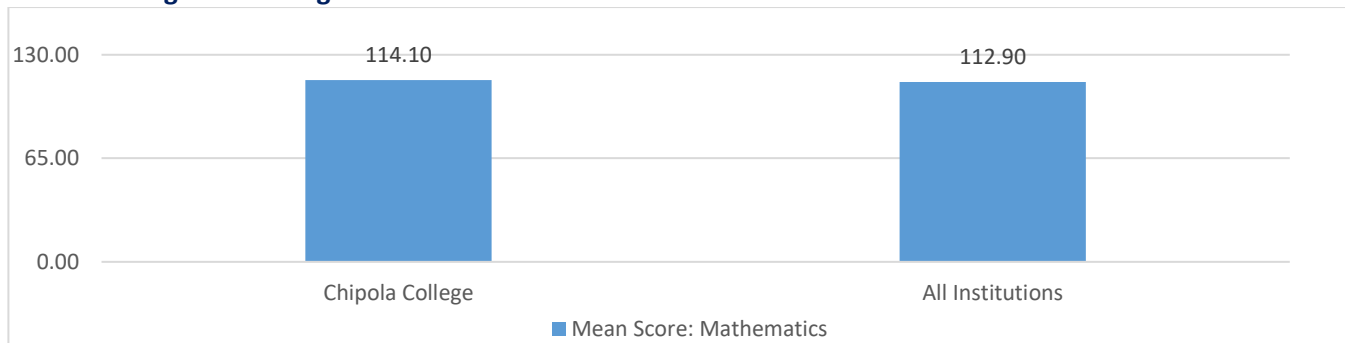
Note: Mean score of all institutions is based on cumulative results from July 2022 through June 2023 and is reported by ETS.

Comparison of Mean Scores on ETS Proficiency Profile Test in Critical Thinking: Chipola College and All Other Associate Degree Granting Institutions



Note: Mean score of all institutions is based on cumulative results from July 2022 through June 2023 and is reported by ETS.

Comparison of Mean Scores on ETS Proficiency Profile Test in Mathematics: Chipola College and All Other Associate Degree Granting Institutions



Note: Mean score of all institutions is based on cumulative results from July 2022 through June 2023 and is reported by ETS.

Chipola College monitors results of ETS Proficiency Profile tests along with results of other performance measures to identify areas for improvement in its general education program. Since Chipola began using the Proficiency Profile tests during the 2017-18 academic year, its students’ mean scores have been higher than the national means in all four skill areas.

Chipola College Facts! is a monthly accountability and institutional effectiveness fact sheet published jointly by the Chipola College Assessment, Compliance, and Grants Office and the Office of Information Systems. Its purpose is to facilitate informed decision-making by publishing relevant information throughout the year. For more information, contact Brent Shelton at Chipola College, 3094 Indian Circle, Marianna, FL 32446 or at sheltonb@chipola.edu

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