

# COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM

## BOARD POLICY NO. 4100

### COM-FSM Entrance Criteria

Date Adopted: 01 April 1993

Date Revised: 19 March 20210; 26 May 2022

Date Reviewed: 22-24 March 2014; 26 May 2022

References: Table of equivalency: Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC®), Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL®), International English Language Testing System (ILETS™), Cambridge Exam, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and Vocation English Certificate (VEC) level system.

#### A. COM-FSM Entrance Test (COMET) Main Criteria

COMET Section	Score <sup>1</sup> and Placement <sup>2</sup>				
	Essay	AND	Reading Comprehension <sup>3</sup>	AND	Math
Degree-Level	>=34		>=9th grade level <sup>4</sup>		
Achieving College Excellence (ACE)	>=28		>= 7th grade level <sup>5</sup>		
Certificate-Level	>=20		>= 5th grade level <sup>6</sup>		
Non-Admit	<20		< 5th grade level		

<sup>1</sup>This applies to the essay section of the COMET. The essays are corrected by a team of college faculty and staff members who are trained to read and score the essay based on a scoring rubric. The rubric has five categories (syntax, vocabulary, organization, coherence, and content) worth 0-5 points for each category for a possible overall total of 25 points. Every essay is read and scored separately by two essay readers. The scores from the two readers are then added together for the final essay score. The final combined essay scores range from 0-50 points.

<sup>2</sup>This applies to the reading comprehension and math sections of the COMET.

<sup>3</sup>The reading comprehension section of the Nelson-Denny Reading Test (NRDT), Form H.

<sup>4</sup>Raw score of >=23 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

<sup>5</sup>Raw score of >=20 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

<sup>6</sup>Raw score of >=15 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

#### B. COM-FSM Entrance Test (COMET) Alternate Criteria<sup>7</sup>

COMET Section	Score and Placement				
	Essay	AND	Reading Comprehension	AND	Math
ACE to degree-level This is applied to those students who are <i>initially placed</i> into ACE after the main criteria, and is used to recommend advancing them to degree-level.					>=10th grade level <sup>8</sup>
	OR				
	>=28		>= 8th grade level <sup>9</sup>		MS 096
	OR				

<sup>7</sup>A set of *alternate criteria* was also established since some students may have good reading comprehension scores and math scores, but an essay or reading comprehension score that is a little low. These alternate criteria are implemented after the first set of criteria is applied.

<sup>8</sup>Raw score of >=26 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

<sup>9</sup>Raw score of >=22 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

COMET Section	Score and Placement				
	Essay		Reading Comprehension		Math
ACE to degree-level ( <i>continuation</i> )	>=42	AND	>=6th grade level <sup>10</sup>	AND	>=MS 096
Certificate-level to ACE This is applied to those students who are <i>initially placed</i> into certificate-level after the main criteria, and is used to recommend advancing them to ACE.			>=10th grade level		
	OR				
	>=36	AND	6th grade level	AND	MS 096
Non-admit to certificate-level This is applied to those students who are <i>non-admit</i> after the main criteria, and is used to recommend advancing them to certificate-level.			>=10th grade level		
	OR				
	>=20	AND	4th grade level <sup>11</sup>	AND	MS 096

<sup>10</sup>Raw score of >=17 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

<sup>11</sup>Raw score of >=14 in the reading comprehension section of the COMET.

### C. Other Entrance Criteria

A student who scored >= 500 in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL®), *paper-based test*, is placed on degree- and college-level courses. However, the college may accept equivalent scores from other standardized English language proficiency tests for entrance and placement purposes.

[Appendix “A”](#) of this policy provides a table of equivalency of the TOEFL® *paper-based test* scores to TOEFL®’s *computer-based test* (CBT) and *internet based test* (iBT), including Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC®), International English Language Testing System (ILETS™), Cambridge Exam, Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), and Vocation English Certificate (VEC) level system.