

The TCC OWL It's a Hoot!



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TCC Presenter

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- Instructional Technologist
 - Blackboard Administrator
 - iTunes U Administrator
 - Google Apps Integrator
 - Educational Technology Trainer



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Project Objectives

- **To enhance student success in writing**
 - Through greater access to the Writing Lab materials via Blackboard
 - (Almost) 24/7 online access to writing lab through online chat
- **To increase persistence and retention**
 - With greater confidence and success, students stay in school
- **To improve graduation rates**
 - Students *who are connected to the institution* finish college
- **To partner with a local high school for similar goals among 10th and 11th grade students**
 - Predicting future success in the workplace
 - Possible increase in dual enrollment



Project Timeline

- **Fall 2008**
 - CEED Grant Awarded
 - Partnership with Green Run High School formed
 - Start of COMPASS Testing at HS site
 - Research of online chat software
- **Spring 2009**
 - Online request system developed using Google Apps
 - Completion of COMPASS Testing
 - 200 GRHS Students added to program
 - 13,000 TCC students (single campus) added to program
- **Fall 2009**
 - All writing center materials added to Blackboard Site
 - Revised request form implemented
 - Program extended to two campuses (21,000 TCC students)
 - Increase in Dual Enrollment at TCC-VB campus

COMPASS Technical Information



COMPASS: an Internet-based Placement Test Program

- Features and flexibility of the COMPASS system can play a key role in ensuring the success of any early intervention program
- We are using the COMPASS Writing Skills Placement Test to identify student skill level in writing and their readiness for college level courses.
- We are also administering the COMPASS Writing Diagnostic Tests for a more detailed evaluation of the students' skill levels.

Set up COMPASS Test Centers in High Schools

- Because COMPASS is internet based, we are able to set up test centers directly at each individual high school, using school's computer labs.
- If a computer lab is not available, a room full of wireless laptops works just as well. All that is required is an internet connection.
- Allows us to separate high school test results from on-campus test results
- Gives us a more secure environment by allowing us to make the test centers active only during testing periods

The Screening Process

- Determine criteria for student participation.
- Create a student database.
- Contact eligible students.
- Present the program to parents and students.



Testing Process

- Secure administrative and staff contacts with the high school site.
- Plan COMPASS testing dates carefully.
- Schedule students for testing.
- Develop a pass system for student and faculty use.
- Create a system for contacting students who do not attend scheduled testing.
- Revise and update passes until all students are tested.

Disaggregate Data and Begin to Draw Conclusions

TCC Cut Score Data Analysis for GRHS Students

As of March 23, 2009

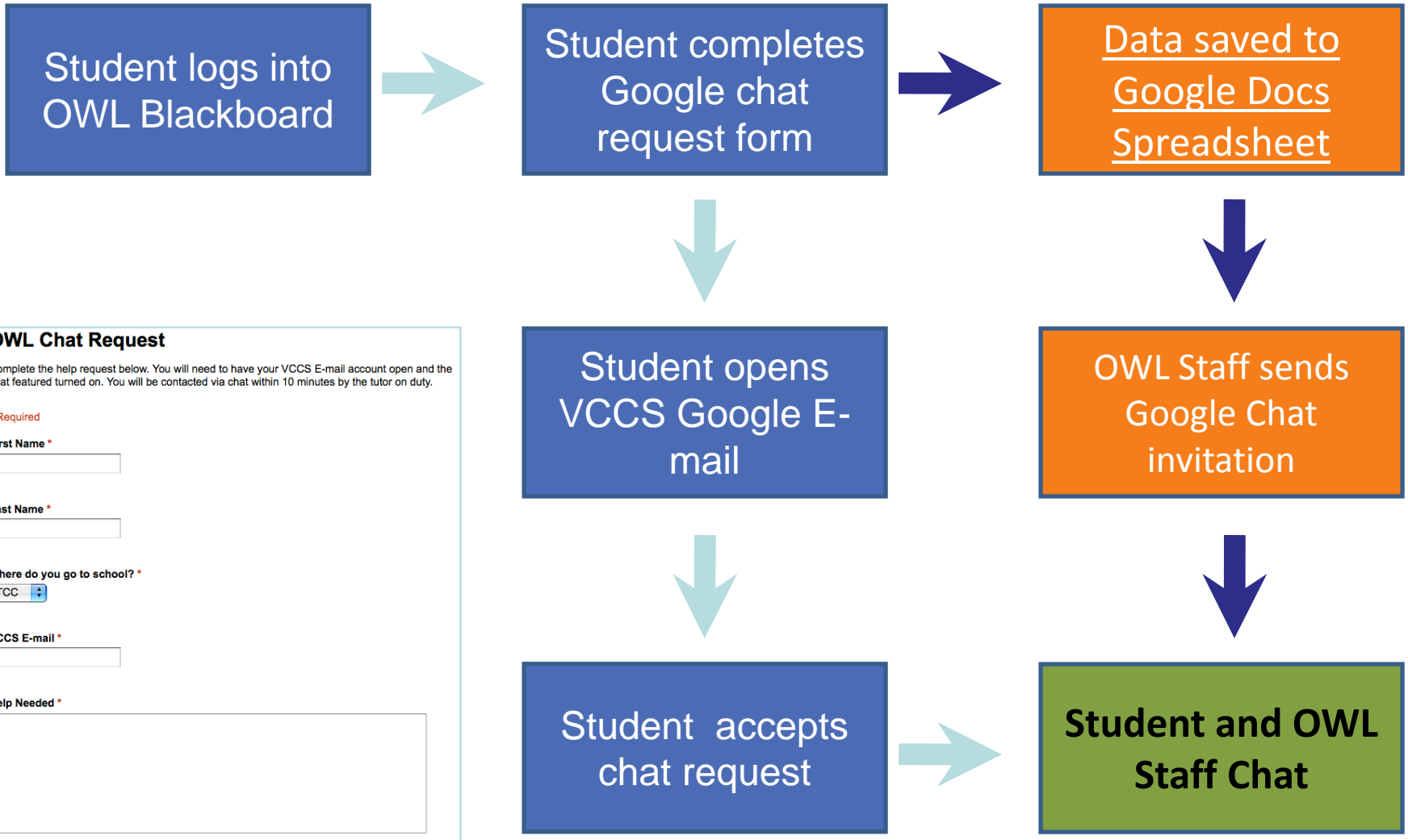
TCC Cut Score for English Placement	Course	GRHS Grade 10	GRHS Grade 11	GRHS Both Grades
0-47	ENG 1 or 3	21	18	39
48-57	ENG 1 or 3 (Determined by a writing sample)	8	6	14
58-68	ENG 3	7	6	13
69-75	ENG 3 or ENG 111 (Determined by a writing sample)	3	2	5
76-99	ENG 111 (Providing reading requirements are met)	25	10	35
				106
Students having incomplete scores as of this printing				80

Observations

By March 23, 2009, about 106 students completed the COMPASS test.

- **33% of the students tested would qualify for English 111**
- **4.5% of the students tested would qualify for English 3 or 111 after evaluation of a writing sample (E-Write).**
- **12% of the students tested would qualify for English 3.**
- **13% of the students tested would qualify for English 1 or 3 after E-Write.**
- **37% of the students tested would qualify for English 1 or 3.**

OWL Chat Requests



OWL Chat Request

Complete the help request below. You will need to have your VCCS E-mail account open and the chat featured turned on. You will be contacted via chat within 10 minutes by the tutor on duty.

* Required

First Name *

Last Name *

Where do you go to school? *

VCCS E-mail *

Help Needed *

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Questions?

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