SPRING 2009

A senior unit of the University System of Georgia

Chart Your Course with the COMPASS

Tests ensure proper placement at Clayton State

ikers often use compasses to ensure that they're walking in the right direction, so they can reach their destinations without getting lost. For much the same reason, Georgia universities require most prospective non-traditional students to take the COMPASS placement test. They want to make sure these students are prepared to handle

A non-traditional student is one who has either earned a high school diploma at least five years prior to submitting his or her university application. If a student has earned a GED, his or her original high school class must have graduated at least five years prior. Students who have attended college previously must have earned fewer than 30 transferrable credit hours to be classified as non-traditional.

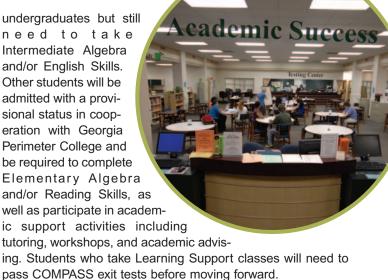
the difficulties of college coursework and likely won't be sidetracked off their own pathways to their goals. COMPASS stands for Computerized Placement Assessment and Support System. The exam consists of three sections: reading, writing, and math. Students must earn minimum scores in each section to gain admission to Clayton State.

The COMPASS determines the need for

students to attend Learning Support classes, which are designed to build up students' reading, writing, or math skills while helping them get acclimated to university expectations. Some students will be admitted as full-time Clayton State need to take Intermediate Algebra and/or English Skills. Other students will be admitted with a provisional status in cooperation with Georgia Perimeter College and be required to complete Elementary Algebra and/or Reading Skills, as well as participate in academ-

The Office of Recruitment and Admissions must receive your COMPASS scores before you can be admitted and before you register to attend an orientation session. Students are allowed one COMPASS retest if necessary (new scores must be received prior to orientation registration as well).

Clayton State's Center for Academic Success is responsible for COMPASS placement testing and exit tests. For more information including minimum required scores and a schedule of upcoming tests, check out http://adminservices.clayton.edu/testingcenter/placementtesting.htm.





Making Sense of Application Paperwork

Completing your application file can be easy if you're organized!

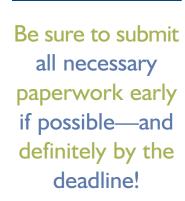
very semester, admissions counselors review stacks of application files carefully, using the information provided to decide whether or not prospective non-traditional students meet the requirements for admission to Clayton State University. Some students submit their applications early and with all necessary components in place, ready to work with the counselors to provide additional information if necessary. Other students wait until the last minute, filling in blanks and throwing paperwork together—and then hope that it all works out. Can you tell which students are more likely to get acceptance letters and have a better transition to college?

Remember: students are not considered for admission until their files are complete. Be sure to submit all necessary paperwork early if possible—and definitely by the deadline!

Here's a list of all required items for application to Clayton State:

- A completed application for admission
- You can fill out an application online at <u>www.clayton.edu</u> or <u>www.gacollege411.org</u>
- If using a paper application, be sure all blanks are filled in and your application is signed.
- A \$40.00 nonrefundable application fee
- If you apply online, you'll need to use a credit or debit card.
- If using a paper application, please enclose a check or money order made out to Clayton State University with the application.
- You may be eligible for an application fee waiver through College Board. For more information, go to <u>www.college-board.com/student/testing/sat/calenfees/feewaivers.html</u>.
- An official copy of your high school transcript (or official GED scores if you are not a high school graduate) and college transcripts if you have previously attended another college. All official transcripts must have the institution's seal and must be presented in an unopened official envelope from the sending institution.

Regarding financial aid: your financial aid materials are



not part of your admissions application paperwork. If you receive an acceptance letter from Clayton State, at that time you should complete and submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Assistance) as soon as possible. You can complete a FAFSA online at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/. Clayton State's Office of Financial Aid can answer vour financial aid questions: just call (678) 466-4185 or send an e-mail to FinancialAid@clayton.edu.

For questions or concerns about your admissions application, please contact Clayton State's Office of Recruitment and Admissions at (678) 466-4115 or csu-info@clayton.edu.



Clayton State Counselor Profile

Carol Montgomery, Assistant Director of Admissions

hen nontraditional students start planning to earn their university degrees, they often have a few issues to work out. Some students have been away from a campus for years, and have difficulty tracking down old records. Some students want a new career, but are nervous about tackling college coursework. Many nontraditional students discover that earning a degree means completely reorganizing home and work priorities.

These students get the helping hand and friendly smile they need from Carol Montgomery, Assistant Director of Admissions at Clayton State

University. For many of her 19 years in the Recruitment and Admissions Office, she has counseled nontraditional students. With her experience, she is able to provide specific advice on a wide variety of issues.

Montgomery says the most common problem nontraditional students have is learning to juggle their responsibilities.



"Fitting college into a life that may already be filled with work, marriage and children is daunting to contemplate. The advice I usually give is to make sure they pace themselves. Start the admissions process well before the application deadline and allow ample time to prepare for taking the COMPASS test, seeking financial aid, and getting the necessary transcripts submitted."

While helping others solve a variety of problems may sound like a demanding job, Montgomery says there are moments that make it worthwhile. "Frequently, around graduation time, I get a call or a visit from one or two stu-

dents who say something like, "Mrs. Montgomery, I finally did it!" They go on to tell me how rewarding their college experience was. I'm always thrilled to have played a small part in their success stories."

Contact Carol Montgomery at (678) 466-4115 or csu-info@clayton.edu/. ■

Mind the Majors

Our new list of undergraduate and pre-professional programs

layton State University is pleased to offer more than 40 bachelor's degree programs, associate's degree programs, certificate programs, and pre-professional tracks. If you have any questions about one of the programs of study listed below, please feel free to contact Clayton State's Office of Recruitment and Admissions at (678) 466-4115 or by e-mail at csu-info@clayton.edu. We'll put you in touch with a counselor or advisor who can help you with your educational and career goals. ■

List of Majors / Bachelor's Degree Programs (as of Fall 2009):

ONE-YEAR CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS:

Computer Network Technology Information Technology Paralegal Studies

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS) DEGREE PROGRAMS:

Information Technology Paralegal Studies

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS:

Arts, Core Curriculum Science, Core Curriculum

Bachelor's Degree Programs:
BACHELOR OF ARTS
PROGRAMS:
Communication and
Media Studies

English History Liberal Studies Middle Level Education Music Theatre

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAMS:

Administrative Management
Allied Health Administration
Dental Hygiene Practice
and Administration
Technology Management
Homeland Security /
Emergency Management
(coming soon!)

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS: Accounting



Business Marketing and Marketing Management General Business Management

BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS:

Information Design and Production Information Technology

BACHELOR OF MUSIC PROGRAMS:
Music – General

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAMS:

Biology Computer Science Criminal Justice

Dental Hygiene Dental Hygiene (RDH to BSDH) Health Care Management Health Fitness Management Information Technology -WebBSIT (online degree program) **Integrative Studies** Legal Studies **Mathematics** Nursing Nursing (RN to BSN) Political Science Psychology and Human Services Sociology

PRE-PROFESSIONAL TRACKS:

Pre-dentistry
Pre-engineering
Pre-law
Pre-medicine
Pre-pharmacy



From I-75

Take I-75 to exit 233 (15 miles south of downtown Atlanta). Turn left and follow the green and white signs for 1-1/2 miles north on Georgia Highway 54. Turn right onto Clayton State Boulevard.

From I-675

Take I-675 to exit 5 west and continue straight on Forest Parkway for two miles. Turn left onto North Parkway. At the first traffic light, Harper Drive, North Parkway becomes North Lee Street. Continue straight on North Lee Street for one block to the next traffic light. Turn left onto Clayton State Boulevard.



We Want to Hear from You!

Phone: (678) 466-4115 | Fax: (678) 466-4149
E-mail: csu-info@clayton.edu
www.clayton.edu/futurestudents.htm



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