





- An overload contract of two weeks for one faculty member to assess writing samples during the winter holiday, especially in early January, should be offered as an incentive for scoring during this period;
- A secured web site (faculty/staff access only) should be set up with a list of writing prompts, the scoring rubric, and examples of scoring using the rubric covering a range of writing samples and
- An email address and fax number should be set up to receive writing samples.

#### Further information

In the event that WritePlacer machine scoring is found acceptable, then the faculty workloads and contract extensions described above would be eliminated or revised downward if hand scoring is found necessary for borderline cases. At this time WritePlacer costs \$3.70 per student. Thus, we project that 1800 student assessments would cost  $\$3.70 \times 1800 = \$6,660$ . This amount would have to be available to Testing Services to implement the writing sample requirement; Testing Services makes ACCUPLACER available to all UAF's campuses.

During the review of WritePlacer, the working group provided the following recommendations for its implementation:

- The elimination of 3 of the 10 available WritePlacer writing prompts;
- Students will be allowed 30 minutes to complete their writing sample; timing starts once they begin writing and
- The time remaining and word count will be shown in WritePlacer during testing.
- There will be no warning time pop up given during the test to remind students the number of minutes remaining (since students will be able to see the downward counting time while taking the test).

New student admits will be strongly encouraged by Admissions to take the ACT Plus Writing Test (<http://www.actstudent.org/writing/index.html> ). Students would incur the extra \$15 to add the Writing Test to their ACT Test package.