1. What is EAP?

EAP means English for Academic Purposes, formerly the English as a Second Language Program.

2. What are EAP courses?

EAP courses are courses for non-native speakers of English who need to improve their English for college, university, and work. They include Grammar, Reading, Writing, and Speech & Listening.

3. Can I take EAP courses?

You may take EAP courses if you are a high school graduate (either U.S. or foreign) or have passed the GED (if you are not a high school graduate).

You must also be a green card resident (resident alien) or a citizen whose native language is not English. If you are not a resident alien or naturalized citizen, you must be a foreign student with an I-20 visa to study at HCC.

4. When are EAP courses offered?

EAP courses are offered during the Fall semester (August – December), the Spring semester (January – May), and the Summer semester (May – June). Courses last for 16 weeks, except for the Summer semester which lasts 7 weeks.

5. How do I start?

First you must fill out an online application, which you can find at https://hccadvisor.hccfl.edu/WebAdvisor/cgi-bin/wwiz/wwizsc4.asp?wwizmstr=WEBAPPLY. This enters you into the HCC computer system and gives you a student identification number.

6. How do I know what level I will be in?

After completing your application, you go to the TESTING CENTER (located in the Student Services Building on the third floor) and take a placement test called the LOEP (Levels of English Proficiency) test. When you finish the test, go to Professor Eckstein’s office (Administration Building, second floor, Room 209) where Professor Eckstein will determine your level.

No appointment is necessary.

If you have never studied English before and want to start in Level 1, you do not need to take the placement test. Instead, go directly to Professor Eckstein’s office to register for Level 1 courses.

7. How do I register for courses?

After completing steps 5 and 6 above, go directly to Professor Eckstein’s office where she and her assistants will help you fill out the registration form and finish registering.

8. Will I receive college credit?

Levels 1-4 do not receive college credit.

Levels 5-6 receive elective college credit.
9. Do I have to finish the program?

Yes and no.

After successfully finishing level 4, you may take the PERT (Postsecondary Education Readiness Test) at the TESTING CENTER. If you pass, you can begin regular college courses.

If you do not pass the PERT, then you must finish levels 5 and 6.

10. Do I have to apply to HCC again to be accepted as a regular student?

No. Once you have passed the PERT or successfully completed level 6, you may begin regular college courses.

11. How much will it cost?

Currently, Florida residents pay $313.17 per three credit course ($104.39 per credit). Non-Florida residents pay $1,138.83 per three credit course ($379.61 per credit).

12. How do I become a Florida resident?

First, you must have lived in Florida for one full year and be able to prove it. The registration of your car or a letter from your employer saying that you have been working for over a year would be enough. Requirements are included on your application form.

13. Is financial aid available?

Yes. Financial aid is available but it is your responsibility to apply. You must fill out a financial aid form called the FAFSA available on the internet at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Many students qualify. Once you have filled out this form, print it, and take this copy to the Financial Aid Office (Student Services Building on the second floor) and find out whether you qualify.

14. How do I enter a university?

Once you graduate from HCC, you are automatically accepted at USF as well as other Florida universities. See an academic counselor for assistance.