WWCC’S COMPASS CALCULATOR GUIDELINES

From the ACT website, the following types of calculators are permitted only after they are modified as noted:

• Calculators that can hold programs or documents—remove all documents and remove all programs that have computer algebra system functionality.

• Calculators with paper tape—Remove the tape.

• Calculators that make noise—Turn off the sound.

• Calculators with an infrared data port—Completely cover the infrared data port with heavy opaque material such as duct tape or electrician’s tape (includes Hewlett-Packard HP 38G series, HP 39G series, and HP 48G).

• Calculators that have power cords—Remove all power cords.

All graphing calculators meet the first bullet. This means every graphing calculator would have to have the memory reset to be allowed on the compass exam. Most students do not want the memory of their calculator to be completely wiped and most outreach sites do not have personnel trained to erase the memory of all of the various types of graphing calculators.

Because of this, Western Wyoming Community College’s Math Department has determined that:

A simple TI-30 and nothing else may be used while taking the COMPASS Test either on our main campus or at any Western outreach facility.

Western Wyoming Community College’s Math Department feels that if a student has truly learned the material, a TI-30 is sufficient to place into college level math.