



Candidate Guide



The AI110 Readiness Assessment verifies that you have the foundational programming skills needed to succeed in the course. Specifically, you'll demonstrate your ability to:

- Use variables, conditionals, loops, and basic data types.
- Work with arrays/lists (traversal, updates, duplicates).
- Define and call functions with parameters and return values.
- Understand basic object-oriented programming (classes, methods, state).
- Apply computational reasoning (counting, scanning, min/max logic).
- Read and debug short snippets of code.

Assessment Overview

- **Platform:** HackerRank

When logging in with HackerRank, please ensure that you use the same email address as the one used for your CodePath application. This will enable us to track your submission effectively. HackerRank will notify us upon your completion of the assessment. Failure to adhere to this requirement may lead to the rejection of your application.

- **Format:** 90 minutes

- **Structure:**

- 3 coding tasks, 20 points each
- 10 multiple-choice questions, 4 points each

- **Languages:** Python or Java (for coding questions only)

You can choose your preferred language on the coding tasks. Multiple-choice questions are shown in Python for everyone, since they focus on concepts rather than syntax.

- **Total Points:** 100

- **Passing Threshold:** 65% overall

- **Outcomes:**

- Ready – Directly admitted to AI110
- Borderline – Admitted with optional review materials
- Not Yet Ready – Recommended study before reapplying

Example Question Formats

Coding Example

Write a function that counts vowels in a string.

- Input: "CodePath" → Output: 3

Multiple Choice Example

What does the code print?

```
Python
nums = [1, 2, 3]
for i in range(len(nums)):
    nums[i] += 1
print(nums)
```

- A) [1, 2, 3]
- B) [2, 3, 4]
- C) [1, 3, 4]
- D) Error



Before You Begin

- Ensure a stable internet connection and a functioning browser.
- Review Python or Java basics (loops, lists, strings, functions, classes).
- Find a quiet environment with at least 90 uninterrupted minutes.
- Try a few short HackerRank-style problems to get comfortable.

Tips for Success

- Read each prompt carefully.
- Test your logic with small examples.
- Aim for clarity over cleverness.
- Partial credit is available when your code passes some of the automated tests but not all. Code that's close but doesn't run or pass any tests won't earn credit.
- Manage your time! Don't get stuck on one question.



Frequently Asked Questions

These are some of the most common questions students have before taking the assessment. Reviewing them now can help you avoid simple tech hiccups or surprises once you begin.

Q: Can I choose my programming language?

Yes — for the coding questions only. You can select Python or Java when you open the coding tasks.

All multiple-choice questions are written in Python, since they focus on logic and understanding rather than language syntax.

Q: I'm doing the coding tasks in Java — will the multiple-choice questions still be in Java?

No. All multiple-choice and trace questions appear in Python, but they don't require you to write code — just to reason about what the code is doing. If you're familiar with another language, you can still follow the logic.

Q: What if I accidentally choose the wrong language on a coding question?

You can switch the language at the top of the coding window before you start typing your solution. Once you've written or submitted code, avoid switching again — it may clear your work.

Q: Can I pause or restart the assessment?

No. The timer runs continuously once you begin. Plan for a full 90-minute block with a reliable internet connection before starting.

Q: What if my internet disconnects or my browser closes accidentally?

If you refresh or reopen the same link right away, the timer continues from when you started the assessment. It will **not** resume where you left off.

If this happens and you feel that it will affect your ability to complete the assessment within the remaining time, please reach out to admissions@codepath.org as soon as possible.

Q: Can I use AI tools (like ChatGPT, Copilot, or Gemini)?

Not for this assessment. We're checking your current programming foundation – how you reason through problems on your own. You'll spend plenty of time using and evaluating AI tools once the course starts!

Q: What if I accidentally submit incomplete code?

You can re-run or re-submit individual problems within the time limit. Only your latest submission is graded for each problem.

Q: Will I see my score right away?

No. You'll receive an email indicating your readiness level: Ready, Borderline, or Not Yet Ready, no later than 7 business days after completing your assessment.

Q: Can I retake the assessment if I don't pass?

Currently, retakes are not offered this term. You can review the optional Bridge Module to strengthen your skills and reapply for a future cohort.

Q: How is my work evaluated?

Your code is automatically tested against several examples and hidden cases. Partial credit is given for partially correct solutions.

Q: How can I view my results or get coaching on areas I need to strengthen?

You'll get an email after we review your results letting you know your readiness level for AI110. We don't share detailed question-by-question feedback, but if you need extra practice, you'll receive a Bridge Module with focused review materials to help you strengthen key programming skills.

Q: Do I need to install anything beforehand?

No installation is required. The assessment runs fully online in your web browser.