

# ALEKS Mathematics Placement Assessment (Required)

All incoming freshman students must complete the ALEKS Mathematics Placement Assessment before attending orientation and enrolling in classes, including incoming freshmen who have already received AP math credit. Transfer students are also required to take the Math Placement Assessment unless they have transferred an equivalent prerequisite course for the ASU mathematics course they intend to take. If you think you have a course that you can transfer in, please check <https://transfer.asu.edu/credits> and use the Transfer Credit Guide. It is recommended that all students take the Mathematics Placement Assessment just in case their course doesn't count as an equivalent prerequisite.

**Once you've begun the Math Placement Assessment, you have two hours to complete it. You cannot save your place and come back to the test.** Please allow 24-48 hours for your score to appear on My ASU. For incoming freshmen attending an orientation, please keep this in mind and take your placement assessment at least 48-72 hours before your orientation date.

Your advisor will review your placement test score and your [major math requirements](#) to determine the appropriate math course for you.

## Getting Started (Please read ALL steps)

1. If you have previously received accommodations due to having a disability, or feel like you should receive accommodations, please contact our Disability Resource Center (480-965-1234) so that they can provide you accommodations for this assessment.
2. The link that will be provided should prompt you to enter your ASU log in information. Once you have submitted your ASURITE and password, you will see a screen to confirm your information. Hit **Accept** at the bottom of the screen to continue.
3. Before getting started, you will be asked to fill out a very brief survey regarding your last math class. Please fill out the survey to the best of your ability.
4. ALEKS will begin with a brief tutorial to make sure you are comfortable with the math palette tools before your Placement Assessment begins. The tutorial shows you how to enter different types of answers, how to use the ALEKS calculator, and how to graph. If you aren't sure how to input an answer, or need help while you are taking the ALEKS Placement Assessment, select the **Help** button below the answer pallet tools. Going to the tutorial during your Placement Assessment will **NOT** impact your Placement Assessment results.
5. ALEKS will ask you for a proctor password. The password is **ARIZONASTATE1**.
6. When you are ready to take the exam, you may do so by clicking on this link: [ALEKS Placement Assessment](#). You will have two hours to take this test. Good luck!

## Review your score

After completing the Placement Assessment, you will see your result. You will then be able to see what class you placed into, view cut score information, and the number of time that the Placement Assessment can be retaken. If you score in the 0-45 range, ALEKS will tell you that you need to work within your prep modules. It is highly encouraged that you do so, however you will be able to enroll in MAT 142 or MAT 117 with this score.

Please use the following table to determine which class you are eligible to take based on your Math Placement Assessment score.

Score on Mathematics Placement Assessment	Math Class Placement
0 – 60	MAT 142: College Mathematics, or MAT 117: College Algebra (WHICHEVER YOUR MAJOR REQUIRES)
61 - 75	MAT 119: Finite Mathematics
	MAT 170: Precalculus
	MAT 171: Precalculus: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
	MAT 210: Brief Calculus
	MAT 251: Calculus for Life Sciences
	STP 226: Elements of Statistics
76 - 100	STP 231: Statistics for Life Sciences
	MAT 265: Calculus for Engineers I
	MAT 270: Calculus with Analytic Geometry I

## Retaking the Math Placement Assessment

It is *highly* encouraged to retake the assessment at least one other time. You have up to **three** attempts on the Placement Assessment. Before retaking the assessment however, you will need to practice your learning modules. There is a cool off period of 24 hours before you can access your second attempt. You will also not be able to access your third attempt until you log 3 hours or more of prep and learning module work.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the Math Placement Assessment?

Arizona State University requires an ALEKS Placement, Preparation and Learning (ALEKS PPL) Assessment to determine readiness for mathematics courses. ALEKS PPL is a web-based program that uses artificial intelligence to map a student's strengths and weaknesses. The Placement Assessment is up to 30 questions and generally takes 60-90 minutes to complete. After the Placement Assessment, an individualized Prep and Learning Module is available for students to refresh their knowledge on forgotten topics. Students then have the opportunity to reassess and improve their placement. ALEKS consists of three parts:

- An Initial Placement Assessment
- The Prep and Learning Module, an individualized, self-paced online review
- Access to two additional Placement Assessments

Arizona State University encourages each student to spend time in the Prep and Learning Module, even if the desired score is achieved, because time spent in ALEKS will ultimately lead to better preparation and improved grades.

#### Who is required to take the Mathematics Placement Assessment?

All incoming freshman students are required to take the Mathematics Placement Assessment, including incoming freshmen who have already received AP math credit. Transfer students are also required to take the Mathematics Placement Test unless they are transferring an equivalent math prerequisite for the ASU mathematics course they intend to take.

This is a "Placement Assessment," not a test. The difference is that a Placement Assessment is designed to determine what a student knows and what a student needs to work on. At the end of the ALEKS PPL Assessment, a student will have a much better sense of his/her strengths and weaknesses in math. Students then have a chance to brush up on topics that may have been forgotten or haven't been practiced for some time.

#### Do I need to install any plug-ins prior to taking the Mathematics Placement Assessment?

No. There are no required plug-ins or applets required with your use of ALEKS PPL. As long as you have access to the internet and are using an updated browser, you should not experience difficulties in taking your Placement Assessment. For a list of preferred browsers, please review the ALEKS system requirements on their supported site: [http://www.aleks.com/support/system\\_requirements](http://www.aleks.com/support/system_requirements)

#### What topics are covered during the ALEKS PPL Assessment?

ALEKS PPL is an online, adaptive system that covers a broad spectrum of mathematics topics. The length of the Placement Assessment will vary, but can be up to 30 questions. You will see some, but not all, of the math you have learned in high school. It is a Placement Assessment, not a preview of math courses Arizona State University. It is designed to identify if you are prepared for a particular course. After you take your first Placement Assessment, you will have the opportunity to review and master additional topics to reassess and improve your placement.

Topics covered:

- Real numbers (including fractions, integers, and percentages)
- Equations and inequalities (including linear equations, linear inequalities, systems of linear equations, and quadratic equations)
- Linear and quadratic functions (including graphs and functions, linear functions, and parabolas), exponents and polynomials (including integer exponents, polynomial arithmetic, factoring, and polynomial equations), rational expressions (including rational equations and rational functions).
- Radical expressions (including higher roots and rational exponents)
- Exponentials and logarithms (including function compositions and inverse functions, properties of logarithms, and logarithmic equations)
- Geometry and trigonometry (including perimeter, area, and volume, coordinate geometry, trigonometric functions, and identities and equations)

#### How do I view my score?

You will see your score immediately after you complete your assessment.

Once scores are loaded into the ASU system, you can view yours on [My ASU](#), under Assessment Scores. Math Placement Assessment scores are retrieved and loaded daily, usually at 10 a.m. You will not be able to register for classes until the score shows on the Assessment Scores page of your My ASU. To ensure scores are available at the time of your orientation, it is recommended that you start this process a week in advance.

#### How long are my Mathematics Placement Assessment scores valid?

It is crucial that the scores be reflective of your current mathematical knowledge. Therefore, the scores are valid for 12 months.

#### What if I do not obtain the required minimum score for courses?

You may take the placement assessment again for a better score. Before retaking the assessment, you will be required to work on at least 3 hours' worth of modules. You have a total of three attempts.

#### How do I get technical support for the Math Placement Assessment?

For technical support assistance, you may call the Math Department at 480-965-7195. You may also email [placement.math@asu.edu](mailto:placement.math@asu.edu)

#### How do I get math advising support?

If you have questions about your placement assessment scores and the courses you should take for your degree program, contact your academic advisor in your major. Your advising contact information is located in [My ASU](#).

#### Are there any accommodations available to me if I am registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC)?

Yes, please contact the DRC directly to get access to a version with appropriate accommodations. Their phone number is 480-965-1234.

#### My Math Placement Assessment score is higher than 60 percent. My major map says I need to take MAT 142. Do I have to take a higher math class because of my score, or can I still take MAT 142?

You can still take MAT 142, even if you score higher than what is required to take that class.

#### Is MAT 142 more difficult than MAT 117 and MAT 119 since it is a higher number?

No, MAT 142 is actually just a different math track than MAT 117 and MAT 119.

#### I am visually impaired. Is there an alternative testing option?

If you need any special accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center here: [http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/services\\_testing.htm](http://www.asu.edu/studentaffairs/ed/drc/services_testing.htm)

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