

## Informed Consent

### Transitional mathematics for placement and success in university mathematics courses

#### Introduction

You are being invited to take part in a research study. The information in this form is provided to help you decide whether or not to take part. Study personnel will be available to answer your questions and provide additional information. If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to read this consent form and electronically agree to participate in the study. Please print a copy of this form for your records.

#### What is the purpose of this research study?

The Department of Mathematics at the University of Arizona is conducting a study of the impact of transitional mathematics on placement and success. In order to facilitate this, we are collecting information about students who take the University of Arizona ALEKS placement test.

#### Why are you being asked to participate?

You are being invited to participate because you are taking the University of Arizona ALEKS placement test, and you are at least 18 years old.

#### How many people will be asked to participate in this study?

Approximately 7000 persons will be asked to participate in this study.

#### What will happen during this study?

We will collect and correlate the following information in our study:

- Your Math SAT/ACT score (if applicable)
- The name of your high school
- Your academic index
- Your high school GPA
- Your Arizona high school GPA
- The mathematics courses you took in high school and the grades you received
- The mathematics courses you will take in the first two years of college and the grades you will receive
- Your mathematics transfer credits and grades
- Your Calculus AB/BC AP score(s) (if applicable)
- Your scores on the ALEKS placement test you are taking
- Your scores on the ALEKS learning mode (if applicable)
- Your ethnicity and gender

- Your residency status
- Your self-declared major

We will also randomly select some participants to partake in an interview regarding their experience in prerequisite mathematics courses.

**How long will I be in this study?**

We will collect data for this study through the end of your sophomore year.

**Are there any risks to me?**

There are only minimal risks involved, such as loss of confidentiality. However, the study team will make every effort to keep all data confidential.

**Are there any benefits to me?**

There are no direct benefits to you. The data collected in this study will be used to help us determine which factors are the best predictors of success in mathematics at the University of Arizona, and possibly help us improve the way that we place students into mathematics courses in the future.

**Will there be any costs to me?**

There are no costs for taking part in the study.

**Will I be paid to participate in the study?**

You will not be paid to participate in this study.

**Will video or audio recordings be made of me during the study?**

No video or audio recordings will be made during the study without your explicit permission.

**Will the information that is obtained from me be kept confidential?**

Your records will be confidential. Once all of the data is collected, your name and SID number will be removed from our database and each student will be referred to by a number. You will not be identified in any reports or publications resulting from the study. Representatives of regulatory agencies (including The University of Arizona Human Subjects Protection Program) may access your records.

**What if I am harmed by the study procedures?**

You cannot be harmed by the study procedures.

**May I change my mind about participating?**

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You may decide to not begin or to stop the study at any time. Your refusing to participate will have no effect on your placement or success in mathematics courses at the University of Arizona. You can discontinue your participation with no effect on your

student status. Also any new information discovered about the research will be provided to you. This information could affect your willingness to continue your participation.

**Whom can I contact for additional information?**

You can obtain further information about the research or voice concerns or complaints about the research by contacting Dr. Linda Simonsen ([simonsen@math.arizona.edu](mailto:simonsen@math.arizona.edu)).

If you have questions concerning your rights as a research participant, have general questions, concerns or complaints or would like to give input about the research and can't reach the research team, or want to talk to someone other than the research team, you may call the University of Arizona Human Subjects Protection Program office at (520) 626-6721. (If out of state use the toll-free number 1-866-278-1455.) If you would like to contact the Human Subjects Protection Program via the web, please visit the following website:

<http://www.irb.arizona.edu/contact/>.

**Your Consent**

By selecting "Accept" on the webpage, I affirm that I have read the information contained in the form, that the study has been explained to me, that my questions have been answered and that I agree to take part in this study. I do not give up any of my legal rights by consenting to participate in the study.