READ BEFORE TAKING THE UA ALEKS ONLINE MATH PLACEMENT TEST

Top Ten Ways to Maximize Your Placement Score

1. Take the right test! Once you select a test you cannot switch for any reason.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Take this exam</th>
<th>If:</th>
<th>Can this place me into calculus?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep for College Algebra</td>
<td>You have not recently taken Calculus, Precalculus or Trigonometry. This is an Algebra test.</td>
<td>No, sufficient scores can only place a student as high as Precalculus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep for Calculus</td>
<td>You have recently taken or are taking Precalculus, Trigonometry, or higher math like Calculus. There is no calculus on this test.</td>
<td>Yes, sufficient scores can place a student as high as calculus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Review before you take the exam. Free course review material and information about ALEKS Learning Mode can be found through [http://math.arizona.edu/academics/placement/review.html](http://math.arizona.edu/academics/placement/review.html). There is no practice test, but you can practice.

3. Complete all of the problems. You cannot skip questions. The problems must be done in order. The “I don’t know” answer should only be used if you have never seen that particular type of problem. Do not use the forward and backward arrows on your browser. They will not work. You will not receive a score unless you complete the exam and your pie chart and percentage are given.

4. Make sure you have 2-3 hours to dedicate to testing and try to complete the test in one sitting. If you do not complete the test within 1 week, your test will expire and you will have lost your chance to test through Next Steps. If you take a break while testing, you can re-access the test through the “Begin test and download process” link in Next Steps.

5. Follow all directions in ALEKS. This includes solving all problems without assistance and using only the calculator provided by ALEKS. It is important that your current knowledge is reflected in your test score.

6. Have plenty of paper available to completely work out every problem. You are more prone to make mistakes if you do not write out your work completely, clearly, and legibly.

7. Before you click “Next”, check your work often. Check every answer on your scratch paper, and check to make sure that you typed your answer into ALEKS correctly, as it appears on your paper.

8. Do not rush through your exam. This exam is determining your placement into your next math class at the U of A. There is no time limit, so take your time (in one sitting preferably). If you are not happy with your placement score, you will need to re-test. You have ONE attempt at one test through the Next Steps Center. If you wish to re-test or take the “other” test, you will need to pay a proctoring fee and take it at the UA Testing Office. Once you complete your exam, your score is final. Any technical or other issues need to be resolved before completing the test. See trouble shooting information below.

9. What internet Browser do I use? MAC – Safari or Firefox, PC- Explorer, Firefox, or Chrome

10. Be familiar with the trouble-shooting and placement cut-offs before beginning your exam. This information is included below and at [http://math.arizona.edu/academics/placement](http://math.arizona.edu/academics/placement). Do not complete the exam if you are having technical difficulties!

ALEKS Trouble Shooting or Technical Issues:

- If you receive any error messages, or messages about the JAVA on your browser, contact ALEKS directly through [http://support.aleks.com/](http://support.aleks.com/). The Math Department and Next Steps Center will not be able to assist you with this. Once the Plug-in is installed, you should be able to start the test. You may need to close all of your browsers and proceed back to the Next Steps Center, nextsteps.arizona.edu, login, and go back to the “Begin test and download process link” to access the test. You also may need to restart your computer.

- If your computer freezes, you are not able to submit an answer, or you take a short break, you will need to close the browsers, go back to nextsteps.arizona.edu, and access the test link to resume testing.
A Summary of required UA ALEKS Online Placement Test Percentages are given below. You need an appropriate score in order to take a UA Math course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course information</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Prep for Calc (PCAL)</th>
<th>Prep for Col Alg (CALG)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep for College Math</td>
<td>Math 100</td>
<td>25-100%</td>
<td>30-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Algebra level</td>
<td>Math 105, 109C, 111, 112</td>
<td>45-100%</td>
<td>55-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precalculus level</td>
<td>Math 120R, 113, 116, 163, 263</td>
<td>65-100%</td>
<td>88-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculus level</td>
<td>Math 122A/122B</td>
<td>70-100%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional information is available through at math.arizona.edu/academics/placement#courses, and at orientation.

Access the test through the Next Steps Center link.
- Next steps is only available prior to the first day of classes. After that, all students test through the UA Testing Office or through ProctorU. Students need to test at least one week prior to their orientation date.
- Once you click on the “Begin test and download process link”, you will see the screens below. Click on “Sign In” and then click on “Assessment”.
- You will then select which test to take by clicking on the test. After you select your test, you cannot switch for any reason, so be careful here! Once you select a test, you have started the exam.
- Read and answer the questions in the User Agreement and Privacy Statement.
After this, your registration is complete. If you receive an error, contact ALEKS through http://support.aleks.com/.

You are not done until you see a pie chart with your score, and your overall percentage. Press “Continue” and “More Detailed Report” at the bottom of the screen until you see your percentage. You can print out your report to see what topics you should review if you want to retest later. YOU ARE NOT DONE UNTIL YOU SEE YOUR PERCENTAGE. The score that is processed into the UA system is your percentage. In this case, it is 53%.

Retest: All students can retake the test for a fee. Your second test must be proctored. Go to math.arizona.edu/academics/placement/freshman for more information.