What must I do before taking Reading, Writing or ELS placement tests?
New students must complete an Admission form and obtain a COD ID number. Students with qualifying ACT, SAT or TOEFL scores may not have to take placement tests. Proof of qualifying scores, may be submitted to the Testing Center, Office of Admissions and Outreach, Student Registration Services, Office of Student Records, Campus Central and the Regional Centers. Students with a qualifying GPA may not have to take placement tests. Transcripts must be sent to the Office of Student Records.

What do I need to bring?
Photo ID and COD ID number are required. There are no fees.

Where do I go to take placement tests?
Placement tests are administered at the Main Campus in Glen Ellyn or in the Learning Commons in Addison, Naperville, Carol Stream or Westmont.

What can I study before I complete the tests?
Placement test preparation is available from the Learning Commons. For workshop dates, sample questions and a list of resources, go to www.cod.edu/learningcommons.

What do the tests look like?
Reading, Writing, and ELS are given in a computerized multiple-choice format. Students with documented disabilities can request a paper/pencil test. For more information and practice tests, go to https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students

How many times can I take the tests?
Reading, Writing, and ELS Placement Tests may be taken two times in a one-year period, but students must wait one day before retaking a test.

How long will it take to complete the tests?
The tests are not timed, but allow at least an hour per test. Some tests may take longer to complete. No tests will be started 1 hour before closing time. Results are given to the student immediately after testing.

How long are my scores valid?
All Category One scores in Reading, Writing, and ELS are valid forever.

How do I know if I will take the ELS tests?
Students who have attended school (kindergarten – twelfth grade) in the U.S. for less than 7 years may be eligible to take the ELS version of the placement tests.

How many ELS tests are there?
There are 3 tests and each test can be taken twice. The tests are Reading Skills, Language Use, and Listening.
Math Placement Testing FAQ’s

What must I do before taking math placement tests?
New students must complete an Admission form and obtain a COD ID number, username and password. Students with a qualifying ACT math score may not have to take placement tests. Proof of qualifying scores may be submitted to the Testing Center, Office of Admissions and Outreach, Student Registration Services, Office of Student Records, Campus Central and the Regional Centers.

What do I need to bring?
Photo ID, COD ID number, and COD username/password are required. There is no fee for your first ALEKS account. A charge will be assessed for account resets.

Where do I go to take placement tests?
Placement tests are administered at the Main Campus in Glen Ellyn or in the Learning Commons in Addison, Naperville, Carol Stream or Westmont.

What can I study before I complete the tests?
Placement test preparation is available from the Learning Commons. For workshop dates, sample questions and a list of resources, go to www.cod.edu/learningcommons.

What is ALEKS PPL?
ALEKS Placement, Preparation, and Learning (PPL) is a placement tool. It has a remediation module called “Prep and Learn” to help you review topics you may have forgotten or need to practice. The results from Test #1 are used to form a study plan individualized to your knowledge level.

How do I get started on ALEKS?
Go to Inside.cod.edu, log in and in the Math Placement Test section click on the link to take Test 1.

How many attempts do I have?
You have a total of 4 attempts. Test 1 is unproctored and may be taken at home. It does not count as a placement score, but establishes a personalized study plan. The other 3 attempts are taken at the Glen Ellyn Testing Center or in the Learning Commons in Addison, Naperville, Carol Stream or Westmont. All three proctored tests must be taken within 6 months of Test 1.

How long will it take to complete the test?
The test has no time limit. Allow yourself enough time to complete your test without hurrying—at least 2 hours. No tests will be started 90 minutes before closing time.

Which score will be used for placement?
The highest score from the three proctored tests will be used to determine placement. Test results are available immediately after testing.

Can I use a calculator?
An on-screen calculator will be provided when the ALEKS PPL determines one is necessary. All questions on the ALEKS test are free-response (no multiple choice). Scratch paper will be provided. You cannot use your own calculator.

How long are my scores valid?
Each score is valid for 1 year.