COLLEGE OF DUPAGE
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.

What do I need to take the test?
Photo ID, COD ID number, and COD username/password.

Is there a fee to take the placement test?
There is no fee for your first ALEKS account. A charge will be assessed for account resets.

Which math courses require a placement test score?
All Math courses require an ALEKS PPL score.

What is ALEKS PPL?
ALEKS Placement, Preparation, and Learning (PPL) is a placement tool. In addition to the placement tests, it has a remediation module called “Prep and Learning” 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.

What can I study before I complete the tests?
The best preparation material for the ALEKS placement test is the Prep and Learning module within the ALEKS account. Take the unproctored Test 1 online without outside reference materials, then ALEKS will build a Prep and Learning module specific to your math needs.

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 Test 1 (unproctored) or Prep and learning Module. Math Placement Test information sessions are given periodically to help you understand the testing process in ALEKS. See www.cod.edu/learningcommons for the dates and times.

Will the test be proctored?
Test 1 is unproctored and is taken on your own, but Tests 2, 3, and 4 are proctored.

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.

Testing Hours: cod.edu/testing
Special Accommodations: Center for Access and Accommodations - AccessAccommodations@cod.edu
Additional Questions: Testing Center, academictesting@cod.edu
How many attempts do I have?
You have a total of 4 attempts. Test 1 is unproctored. It does not count as a placement score, but establishes a personalized study plan. Test 2, 3, and 4 can be used for course placement. All attempts must be completed within one year of creating an ALEKS account. An ALEKS account is created the first time you click Test 1 (unproctored) or Prep and learning Module at inside.cod.edu.

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.

Do I have to take all four tests?
No. You must take Test 1 (unproctored) and Test 2 to have a valid placement score, but Tests 3 and 4 are optional.

How long will it take to complete the test?
Allow at least 60-90 minutes to complete your test.

Can I use a calculator?
An on-screen calculator will be provided when the ALEKS PPL determines one is necessary, however most problems must be done without a calculator. You may use scratch paper. You cannot use your own calculator.

Are the questions multiple choice?
All questions on the ALEKS test are free-response (no multiple choice).

If I already took a placement test, can I use that score for placement?
Any unexpired, proctored ALEKS PPL score can be used for course placement.

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

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