The Office of Undergraduate Education

**ALEKS Math Placement Assessment Exam**

UT Dallas uses the ALEKS Assessment to optimize the placement of all students in their first math course. The ALEKS Assessment is offered by the ALEKS corporation, an educational knowledge and assessment research company. The assessment is an open format that does not use multiple choice questions; students may find the experience substantially different from many standardized examinations.

The ALEKS Assessment module at UT Dallas costs $40 per student. The module consists of three parts:

1. Initial assessment.
2. Four retests prior to the deadline.
3. Up to 6 months access to the prep and learning module.

Click here to pay for the ALEKS assessment. Your receipt will contain a link to log into the assessment. (UTD NetID and password login)

**Initial ALEKS Assessment**

Students will take the initial assessment at the beginning of their ALEKS usage. This assessment will provide a valid score that may be used for placement at UT Dallas.

Additionally, students may derive a great deal of benefit from the knowledge profile that the initial assessment generates. If a student did not receive the minimum score for the desired UT Dallas mathematics course, the student may use the knowledge profile to identify areas of needed review.

Even if the student did receive the desired minimum score, that student may find it helpful to review materials that the assessment identified as a knowledge weakness. Remember, courses at UT Dallas are challenging and the pace is demanding. Professors expect students to have a thorough knowledge of prerequisite material.

**Retesting with the ALEKS Assessment**

Retesting with the ALEKS Assessment is included in the $40 total cost. Each student may take the ALEKS Assessment Exam up to five times. After the second attempt, a student must complete some of the self-paced ALEKS tutorials, included in the ALEKS package prior to a third assessment.

Remember, students must obtain a final score at least two weeks prior to attending freshman orientation.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The ALEKS Assessment Module rather than the ALEKS Learning Module should be used for placement purposes. The ALEKS Learning Module will periodically reassess students to determine how much the student has learned. These periodic Learning Module reassessments are not comprehensive of all material and cannot be used for placement purposes. Your advisor will not have access to these scores.

**Continuing ALEKS Review and Instruction**

Students have access to up to six months of the online prep and review provided by the ALEKS learning
module. Students are encouraged to work on areas identified for review and then take another assessment to obtain a desired placement score. After the second attempt students will be required to spend 10 hours in the prep and learning module before attempting the assessment a third time.

PLEASE NOTE: The ALEKS Assessment Module rather than the ALEKS Learning Module should be used for placement purposes. The ALEKS Learning Module will periodically reassess students to determine how much the student has learned. These periodic Learning Module reassessments are not comprehensive of all material and cannot be used for placement purposes. Your advisor will not have access to these scores.

PLEASE NOTE: For incoming freshmen, UT Dallas will consider ONLY the ALEKS Assessment and grades in previously completed math courses taken at UT Dallas for math course placement.

Paying for the ALEKS Assessment

Students will pay UT Dallas directly for the cost of the ALEKS Assessment. The $40 fee will be payable through Marketplace prior to accessing the assessment. Please note that the five assessments (including the initial assessment) and the self-paced tutorial are included in the $40 fee.

ALEKS Math Placement Score

1. Your ALEKS score will be incorporated into your UT Dallas student profile and used for placement purposes. Your academic advisor will have access to your ALEKS score.

2. You can view your score by logging into your ALEKS account.

3. UT Dallas began using an updated version of the ALEKS assessment after July 6. Please refer to the below table for the cut score associated with the date you took the assessment. If you have questions regarding when you took the assessment please contact your advisor.

Students will be placed into math courses if they have achieved a minimum score PRIOR TO JULY 7, 2017 listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UT Dallas Math Course</th>
<th>Minimum ALEKS Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math 1306 - College Algebra</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 20% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 1314 - College Algebra</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 35% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 1316 - Trigonometry</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 35% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 1325 - Applied Calculus I</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 55% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2306 - Analytic Geometry</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 55% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2312 - Precalculus</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 55% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2370 D Intro MATLAB</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 70% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2413 - Differential Calculus</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 70% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 2417 - Calculus I</td>
<td>Minimum ALEKS Score of 75% Required for Placement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will be placed into math courses if they have achieved a minimum score AFTER JULY 7, 2017 listed below
Taking the ALEKS Assessment Exam

For ALEKS to be effective, you must do the exam on your own, without notes, books, or help from others. ALEKS isn't a traditional exam; it's a tool to help you find the course where you'll have the best chance to succeed. In the ALEKS assessment, any outside assistance might place you in the wrong class, lower your GPA and delay your coursework by a semester. Calculus at UT Dallas is challenging and serves as an essential foundation for many other courses; don't take a class for which you are unprepared.

- Plan ahead so that you have at least ninety minutes of uninterrupted time.
- Have a pencil and plenty of scratch paper.
- Have your favorite calculator. If you don't have a calculator, you can use the ALEKS online calculator.

ALEKS Math Placement Exam FAQ

- What is the ALEKS Assessment?
- Who is required to take ALEKS?
- What is the cost of ALEKS?
- How do I take the ALEKS Assessment?
- What if I do not obtain the required minimum score for the course I wish to take?
- Is there a penalty for taking the ALEKS assessment more than once?
- In addition to ALEKS, do I need to take the SAT Subject Test in Math?
- What if I already have credit for calculus through AP, IB or CLEP exams?
- Is ALEKS timed?
• How do I get technical support for ALEKS?
• Do I need to install any plug-ins prior to taking ALEKS?
• How do I view my score after I've taken the assessment?
• If I have college credit for studies I completed during my high school years, am I exempt from the ALEKS requirement?
• What if I still have more questions about ALEKS?

Note

Web page adapted from University of Illinois Math Placement through ALEKS website and The University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences Math Placement through ALEKS website. Permission to adapt the websites was granted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Mathematics and The University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences.

Updated: July 10, 2017