

Math Placement FAQ

1) Do I need to take the math placement exam?

ALL students who do not have AP credit for Calculus (3 or higher on the AB or BC exam) or dual enrollment for pre-calculus or calculus should take a math placement exam at UGA.

2) What if I took an AP Calculus exam this year and don't know my score yet?

We recommend that students who are coming to orientation prior to the release of AP scores take the math placement exam here as a backup option in case the score is lower than a 3.

3) Does having AP Statistics credit or dual enrollment for just College Algebra exempt me from needing to take the math placement exam?

No. See answer to question #1.

4) Should I take the ALEKS online placement or the in-person mathematics exemption exam?

Ideally, students would take both. They should start with ALEKS which gives an exam upfront and then shows student which areas need improvement and provides learning modules to help students improve. Students can then retest in ALEKS up to 5 times. A sufficient score on ALEKS places students into MATH 2250 (Calculus 1), but does not provide a Core Area I exemption for MATH 1101 (Math Modeling) or MATH 1113 (Pre-Calculus). For this reason, we recommend students take the in-person mathematics exemption exam after working through the learning modules in ALEKS to receive their exemption for MATH 1101 and 1113 with a sufficient score.

5) What if I only have time or can only afford to take ALEKS OR the in-person mathematics exemption exam, not both?

The in-person mathematics exemption exam is preferred in almost every case because it can place students into MATH 2250 AND provide an exemption for MATH 1101 and MATH 1113 with a sufficient score. If a student places into MATH 2250 via the exemption exam but their major does not require it, the student is not required to take it and has already completed their Core math requirement for UGA by receiving the exemption for MATH 1101/1113. The student will not have to take any additional math courses at UGA.

6) What if I live out-of-state or far away? Is ALEKS a better option for me?

There is time allotted on the morning of day one of orientation for all students to take a placement test before the orientation program begins at 12pm. If this does not work for you and your major requires MATH 2250 (Calculus 1), it is okay for you to take ALEKS as your only form of math placement. If your major does not require MATH 2250 (eg. all business majors except ECON), it is not helpful for you to take ALEKS other than as a preparation tool for the in-person math exemption exam.

7) What if I know I just want to take the lowest math class available to me at UGA, do I still need to take the math exemption exam?

This is not an advantageous strategy. Taking the math placement exam could save you time and money by exempting you from all required math courses for your UGA degree. You will not be forced to take a math class that you feel uncomfortable taking because of your placement score. It will just be used as a tool by your advisor to make recommendations for appropriate math and science courses.

8) How do I sign up for ALEKS or the math exemption exam?

ALEKS- <http://www.math.uga.edu/Aleks-placement>

Read through the additional information and scroll to bottom of the page for a link to register for the exam.

Math Exemption- Log in via the testing website <https://testing.uga.edu/> and click “Register for an exam”

9) Where can I find more information?

<http://www.math.uga.edu/placement>