

PREPARING FOR & TAKING THE ACCUPLACER



Use this guide to help prepare! Stop by the The Learning Center to get help from a tutor or ask Student Services about other questions.

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The Accuplacer costs \$18 for prospective UA students. Pay at the Business Office (BB 123) before taking your exam.

I. WHAT IS THE ACCUPLACER? WHY SHOULD I PREPARE TO TAKE IT?

The Accuplacer is a mandatory placement test used to help determine which Math and English classes you are ready for at Kodiak College, UAA. This adaptive computer-based test covers Math and English, with English divided into two sections: Sentence Skills and Reading Comprehension.

While preparation is not required, we do advise it because the higher you score, the fewer classes you'll have to take to reach your goals!

II. BEFORE THE TEST

- Make an appointment with a tutor in The Learning Center to:
 - ✓ *Create a realistic study plan* for yourself.
 - ✓ *Complete practice questions* using the “Accuplacer: Sample Questions for Students” handout or the official Accuplacer Web Based Study App.
 - ✓ *Learn some test taking strategies.*

Can't meet with a tutor? Check out the “Free Accuplacer & Test Preparation Resources” handout.

Schedule your testing appointment at least 48 hours in advance.

KODIAK COLLEGE ▪ THE LEARNING CENTER

Know the Testing Center & Accuplacer Rules:

- ✓ Schedule your appointment *at least* 48 hours in advance.
- ✓ Pay for your test at the Business Office and bring your proof of payment and a photo ID to the Testing Center on the day of your test.
- ✓ Outside resources, like phones and calculators, are not allowed during the test. Lockers are available in the Testing Center for personal items.
- ✓ Food and drinks are not allowed during the test, but you *can* have a lidded drink in the waiting area.
- ✓ You *can* take breaks! Just check in with the proctor before you do so.
- ✓ The test time is *unlimited*. While you may need more or less, allow yourself at least two hours to take the test.
- ✓ Ear plugs are available. Ask the proctor if you'd like some.
- ✓ Getting tired? If taking both the Math and English tests together, you can ask to finish at another time. Let your proctor know, and be sure to set up an appointment to complete your test within 14 days.

Locations

Business Office: BB 123

Student Services: CC 103

Testing Center: CC 210

Learning Center: CC 205

BB = Benny Benson Building

CC = Campus Center Building

III. DURING THE TEST

- Adjust your testing area to make it as comfortable as possible:
 - ✓ Ask the proctor to open or close the blinds, if needed
 - ✓ Adjust your chair and the brightness of your computer screen
- Make use of the available scratch paper and ask for more if you need it.
- Do the sample questions when they come up during the test.
- Use the test taking strategies you learned.
- Relax and take your time. Visualize success!

IV. AFTER THE TEST

- Get a copy of your results from the proctor.
- Stop by Student Services to set up an appointment with an Advisor to discuss the results and create your course schedule.
- You *can* re-take the test for an additional fee. Talk with an Advisor to help decide if this is a good fit for you before doing so. (Advising is required to retake the Math test.)

CONGRATULATIONS!

You've completed the Accuplacer and taken another step toward reaching your goals.

Free Accuplacer & Test Preparation Resources

MULTIPLE SUBJECTS

- ✓ <https://accuplacerpractice.collegeboard.org/login>
The official Accuplacer Web Based Study App. Also see the “How to Get the Free Accuplacer Study App” handout. This application will open in your browser, and contains five areas of study: Sentence Skills, Reading Comprehension, Arithmetic, Elementary Algebra, and College Level Math.
- ✓ <https://www.khanacademy.org>
A website with “how to” videos covering multiple subjects. You can also “enroll” and go through a series of lessons and practice problems.
- ✓ <http://www.howtostudy.org>
A website with a variety of resources and lots of advice about studying.

MATH

- ✓ **Fast Track Math Review Course at Kodiak College - FREE**
This free short course is typically offered the week before each Fall and Spring semester. Inquire at Student Services about next semester’s dates and times and to register!
- ✓ <http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/mathgames/menus/fractions.htm>
A website with fun fraction games that will help you learn to identify equal and unequal parts, name and identify types of fractions, and lots more.
- ✓ <http://www.visualfractions.com>
A website that helps you to visualize fractions, mixed numbers, improper fractions and equivalent fractions. There are lessons with a progress chart and pre- and post-practice tests.
- ✓ <https://www.mathsisfun.com>
A website with Math topics by grade level. It covers everything from adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing to higher level algebra and functions. There is lots to explore.

ENGLISH

- ✓ <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
A website through Purdue University with lots of writing help, including definitions and grammar exercises.
- ✓ <http://ux.brookdalecc.edu/fac/writing/095/practice/welaccplprsk.html>
A website through Brookdale Community College with test taking tips and exercises specific to the sentence skills section of the Accuplacer.

Do you know of another helpful website we could list here? Please share it with us!

How to Get the Free Accuplacer Web Based Study App

DIRECTIONS

1. Go to: <https://accuplacerpractice.collegeboard.org/login>
2. Follow the directions under “Get the FREE Web-Based Study App!”
3. Once you have “purchased” the app and received the access code in your email, return to the login page from Step 1 and click “Sign Up.” (Check your junk mail or spam folder if it doesn’t show up in your inbox.)
4. Login with the email address and password you used to create the account.
5. Start practicing!
 - a. The “Learn as You Go” option provides sample questions with detailed answers you can use to review.
 - b. The “Sample Test” option allows you to take practice tests.
6. Meet with a tutor in The Learning Center to get help with the app and/or with sample problems.

SOME TIPS

- ✓ While the website uses the word “purchase,” the app is actually FREE. You do not have to pay anything for this free app!
- ✓ During this process, you will be required to enter your email and create a password. Be sure to save the email address and password you use.
- ✓ If you forget your password, return to the login page and click on “Forgot Your Password?”
- ✓ College Board will email you an “access code” to complete the registration process. You may need to check your spam or junk mail folder, and it can take awhile to show up. **The access code is needed to complete the process; be patient and return to finish the process later, and email the Accuplacer help desk if it doesn’t show up within a day.**

HAVING TROUBLE GETTING THE APP?

- ✓ Ask a tutor in The Learning Center for help.
- ✓ Email the Accuplacer help desk: accuplacer@collegeboard.org