

PREPARING FOR & TAKING ALEKS (MATH PLACEMENT)



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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**ALEKS is FREE
for all UA
students.
However, you
must first apply
for admission
to get access.**

I. WHAT IS ALEKS? WHY SHOULD I PREPARE BEFORE TAKING IT?

ALEKS is an adaptive computer-based placement test used to help determine which Math classes you are ready for at Kodiak College, UAA.

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! **Note that the ALEKS practice modules are only available after you've completed your initial placement exam in ALEKS.**

II. HOW TO TAKE THE TEST

- Apply for admissions.*
- Once you have your UAOnline ID and password, complete the test in one of two ways:
 - *(for Free) From the Kodiak College Test Center:* Visit <https://koc.alaska.edu/academic-resources/test-center> or call 907-486-1232 to make an appointment.
 - *(for \$30) From home or another location:* Visit <https://www.alaska.edu/aleks> and click on "Take the Test."

III. BEFORE THE TEST

Complete the following on your own or make an appointment with a tutor in The Learning Center (located in the Campus Center, Room 205) to get help:

- Get to know ALEKS:*
 - ✓ Complete the ALEKS Tutorial the first time you login, paying careful attention to how the software works. Like any software, there is a learning curve.

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- ✓ Adjust the ALEKS system settings, if needed. Options include changing the color contrast and switching to Spanish language questions and instructions.
- ✓ Like keyboard shortcuts? Meet with a tutor to learn some!
- Know the ALEKS Rules:*
 - ✓ You can take the test anywhere you'd like: at your home, in The Learning Center, in the Library, or in the Kodiak College Testing Center. Just note that it is only free if taken at the Testing Center
 - ✓ Wherever you take the test, it must be proctored. If you complete ALEKS anywhere other than a test center, you'll be prompted to download online proctoring software.
 - ✓ Once started, you have 3 hours to complete the test.
 - ✓ Outside resources, like phones and calculators, are **not** allowed.
 - ✓ You *can* re-take the test up to 4 times. In order to do so, **you must practice in the ALEKS learning modules 3 or more hours** before the second attempted, and 5 or more hours for each retake thereafter.
- Visit the University of Alaska ALEKS webpage to learn more: www.alaska.edu/aleks

Need help with Writing testing? Check out our "Preparing for & Taking the Accuplacer" handout.

IV. DURING THE TEST

- Adjust your testing area to make it as comfortable as possible.
- Make use of scratch paper.
- Don't guess. Instead, do your best to answer each question.
- Use the other test taking strategies you've learned.
- Relax and take your time!

V. AFTER THE TEST

- Print a copy of your final results.
- Stop by Student Services in CC 103 or call them at 907-486-1264 to set up an appointment with an Advisor to discuss the results and create your course schedule.
- Planning on re-taking ALEKS?* Consider completing the required practice modules in The Learning Center so you can get direct assistance from our Math Tutors as you progress.

CONGRATULATIONS!

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