



## Mat-Su Middle College School Accuplacer and ALEKS Information *Important information to review prior to scheduled test date*

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The MSMCS and MSC requires two assessments: Accuplacer and ALEKS. to be considered eligible for enrollment. A student must meet the minimum requirement on the Accuplacer and/or ALEKS to be considered eligible for enrollment in the MSMCS. The assessments measure competency in math, reading, and writing skills and determines a student's appropriate level of instruction.

In order to take the Accuplacer and ALEKS, have your University of Alaska ID and log in ready as you will need this for the test. If you do not have a University of Alaska ID number, you will need to request one prior to registering for the Accuplacer or ALEKS. To request a UA ID visit: [Apply for University of Alaska ID](#)

### Accuplacer

The Accuplacer benchmark score is 530. Accuplacer may be taken two times per semester. You must pre-register for the Accuplacer.

The Accuplacer student will begin the assessment by entering their UA ID and password, complete a short survey and work through a tutorial. Once the proctor launches the test, the student will have unlimited amount of time to complete the test. Accuplacer has 2 components: Reading and Writing. A student may use a provided piece of blank paper and a pencil during the test.

Accuplacer scores are reported immediately to the student after the exam. Accuplacer placement scores are designed to indicate which course will provide the most benefit for each student. Scores from the ACCUPLACER Reading and Writing tests are combined into a single score which then indicates the course that a student may enroll in. The Accuplacer may be taken twice per semester. The best score (s) from the Reading and Writing components will be "super scored". The following scores indicates which course a student is eligible to enroll:

- High School English - *less than 530*  
*A student will retest in Accuplacer at the end of the semester for English placement the following semester.*
- Writing Across Contexts (WRTG A111) - *greater than or equal to 530*

To look up Accuplacer test scores from previous test sessions:

1. Go to <https://www.accuplacer.org/> and select (Student Portal) Information for Students.
2. Select Your ACCUPLACER Score Report
3. Enter your University of UA student ID number, name, and date of birth.
4. Select the location and name of the testing center (MSC) that administered your test.
5. Your score report link will be emailed to the address you entered during the test session.

### ALEKS

The ALEKS benchmark score is 30. ALEKS may be taken up to five times per school year. You must pre-register for the ALEKS each time.

The ALEKS student will begin the assessment by entering their UA ID and password, complete a short survey and work through a tutorial. Once the test is launched, the proctor will enter a secure password and the student will have three hours to complete the test. ALEKS is a fully automated and adaptive system that covers material from basic math through precalculus. A student may use a provided piece of blank paper and a pencil during the test. Calculators and textbooks are not allowed.



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### Specifics about ALEKS:

- At the beginning of the Math Placement Test, you will go through a brief tutorial.
- You will be shown how to enter different types of answers, how to use the ALEKS calculator, and how to graph something by hand.
- Do not use a textbook or calculator - the assessment has a built-in calculator which is available on certain questions.
- Enter your answers carefully. ***Once you submit your response to a question, you cannot return to that question to change the answer.***
- Select "I don't know" only if you have no idea how to work a problem. If you select "I don't know" repeatedly, it will lower your score on the assessment.
- Solve all problems on the ALEKS without assistance. Do not use any books or online resources or ask for assistance from any other person.
- If your computer locks up or freezes during the middle of the assessment, refresh the page in your browser. If that does not work, close your browser and log back in. The work you have already submitted will be saved and the assessment will pick up at the point you left off.
- Once you begin the placement test you must complete it within 3 hours, or you will have to start over.
- ALEKS scores are reported immediately to the student after the exam. The following scores indicates which course a student is eligible to enroll:
  - High School Math – *less than 30*  
*A student will retest in ALEX at the end of the semester for math placement the following semester*
  - College Math – *greater than or equal to 30*

After the assessment, a targeted Prep and Learning Module is available for review and includes learning materials to improve placement and eventual course outcomes. Between each ALEKS assessment attempt, a student must complete a ALEKS tutorial tailored specifically to the student after the assessment. You have the opportunity to re-test up to four times per school year.

### Accuplacer Test Prep

- <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice/full-length-practice-tests>
- [APEX Accuplacer Study Guide](#)

### ALEKS Test Prep

- [varsitytutors.com/practice-tests](https://www.varsitytutors.com/practice-tests)
- [101science.com/math.htm](https://www.101science.com/math.htm)
- [khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org)
- [mathhelp.com/math-test-prep/](https://www.mathhelp.com/math-test-prep/)



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### Tips for taking ACCUPLACER and/or ALEKS Placement Tests

1. Relax! This is not a pass or fail test. ACCUPLACER and ALEKS was designed to help students succeed in college. Test scores help students and advisors identify academic strengths and weaknesses and determine which courses will most likely help students succeed.
2. Get a good night's sleep, eat a nutritious meal or snack and arrive at FSM 104 a few minutes early. These strategies can help examinees concentrate and gather their thoughts before testing.
3. Pay careful attention to directions on each section of the test.
4. Answer each question. ACCUPLACER and ALEKS is an adaptive test, which means that questions are chosen on the basis of each examinee's answers to previous questions. You may change the answer on a particular question before moving ahead to another question, but you will not be able to return to a previous question. It is better to guess than to leave a question unanswered.
5. Eliminate one or more of the choices on difficult questions. This reduces the chance of choosing a wrong answer.

### Day of the Accuplacer and/or ALEKS Placement Tests

1. The Accuplacer and ALEKS will be held in-person on the Mat-Su College Campus in **Classroom FSM 104**. **SEE MAP** - Look for the STAR ☆ **DO NOT GO TO THE MSC TESTING CENTER** unless previous arrangements have been made with the MSMCS.
2. Enter through the Mat-Su College main campus doors and turn left. First classroom on your left.
3. If in the event the MSBSD cancels school district wide, the Accuplacer and ALEKS will be canceled and rescheduled.
4. Plan to arrive at the test session a few minutes early.
5. You will be asked to show a photo ID (school issued or government)
6. Currently, UA policy requires all students to wear a mask.
7. Personal belongings must be moved out of reach of the testing area.
8. You will be asked to enter contact information (such as mailing address, phone number, and email) and to answer questions regarding your educational goals. This information is entered in the university database and is used by the advisors to help you choose the best courses.
9. The average time for the tests is about an hour and a half; however, times for individual testers can vary greatly.

If you should have any questions, please call or email: [mary.brothers@matsuk12.us](mailto:mary.brothers@matsuk12.us) or 907.761.3495



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