

Mission

To help students internalize the Gospel message of salvation in Christ Jesus.

Core Values

Biblical Truth | Integrity | Innovation
Excellence | Relationships

FAQs for Biology placement, Challenge Testing, and STEM

- 1. How is my student placed into Biology?** Biology placement is based on a combination of the results from incoming freshman placement tests in Math, Quantitative Skills and English.
- 2. What is Biology A?** Biology A provides for smaller class sizes, more teacher one-on-one support, and academic accommodations are made to support students. It receives the same credit as Biology 1 and is UC-approved. Students can advance to Chemistry or Principles of Chemistry, depending on their Biology A grade.
- 3. What's the difference between Biology and Honors Biology?** The content for Honors Biology is covered at a faster pace and more topics are covered. There is a greater amount of homework/reading. Students will be challenged to think deeper, apply their learning and make connections to the material throughout the year.
- 4. If my student got placed into Honors Biology, does (s)he have to take it? Can s(he) take regular Biology?** In general, we recommend students take the science course in which they place. However, parents best understand their student's abilities and a balance of workload, so, yes, a student can take a lower level than what they test into. We recommend discussing the overall rigor of your student's schedule when you meet with a counselor to register for classes on Freshman Registration Day.
- 5. Is there a way for my student to test out of Biology A into Biology?** Yes, please sign up for a challenge test.
- 6. Is there a way for my student to test out of Biology into Honors Biology?** Yes, please sign up for a challenge test.
- 7. What can I study to be prepared for the challenge test?** Nothing, it is a multiple-choice style exam designed to test reading comprehension and critical thinking. Just come and do your best.
- 8. How long is the challenge test?** A student is allowed 1 hour to take the challenge test, but they can leave the testing room as soon as they complete the exam. Students do not typically take the 1 hour time allotment.
- 9. What if none of the dates provided work for my student for challenge testing?** A variety of days and times are offered in hopes that each student can make one of the options work, and so we ask that you try to accommodate one of the scheduled dates. If, however, it is just not possible, please connect with Maria Perez at maria.perez@lhsoc.org to schedule an individualized science testing time.

STEM Academy related question:

How does my student get into STEM? Students are invited to apply for STEM during semester 2 of their freshman year. A typical STEM candidate takes Honors Biology and Honors Geometry (or Honors Algebra 2) as a freshman. To qualify, students must achieve A's in both of these freshman honors-level courses.

For any other questions, please contact the Science Department Chair, Jana Reiland, at jana.reiland@lhsoc.org