

The Department of Mathematical Sciences Placement Test Policy

Revised 1/2020

About the Department of Mathematical Sciences Placement Test

The UNLV DMS offers placement testing designed to provide information about the academic skills of students entering mathematics courses at UNLV. The primary function of the placement test is to assist with determining if a student is prepared for a college level mathematics course, or if the student would benefit from a developmental course. In particular, the test is designed to assess a students' readiness for:

Math 120, Math 122, Math 124, Math 126, Math 127, Math 128 or Math 132.

The DMS holds the right to modify and realign test standards at any point in time. The test results are valid for one year from the date that student takes placement test.

Eligibility for Taking the Test

Students who have *not* met prior math prerequisites may take the DMS placement test. These prerequisites may include any of the following:

- sufficiently high ACT/SAT scores taken within the past 2 years
- sufficiently high math AP scores (AB or BC test)
- previous completion of a NSHE mathematics course for which a student has been appropriately placed (earning a C or better)
- appropriate transfer course from another accredited college or university (earning a C or better).

The following students are not eligible to take the Placement test:

- students who have taken the DMS placement test within the last 90 days.

It is the students' responsibility to determine eligibility or seek clarification. While it may be possible for an ineligible student to sign up, the exam score will be inadmissible and will not be uploaded into the system.

The Structure of the Test

The in person placement test is offered exclusively through the UNLV DMS. There is the option for an online version, ALEKS, handled under the Math Learning Center that is accepted by the DMS for Math Placement. They can be reached at mlc@unlv.edu or 702-895-3275.

The DMS test is formatted as multiple choice responses. During test day, no calculators, phones, or electronic devices of any kind will be allowed in the testing facility. If needed, students will be provided with scrap paper. Each student will be given 1 hour and 30 minutes for the test, but may choose to leave if they feel they have finished the test before time is up.

Preparing for the Test

The DMS will not provide tutoring for the placement test. In addition, to maintain the integrity of the process, the DMS will not provide students with sample tests, questions or guidance on the objectives covered on the test.

Signing up for the Test

The placement test is offered throughout the year on an appointment basis. Visit the DMS website for more information. Appointments are made through the DMS. Seats are limited, so students are encouraged to sign up early. To prepare to take the test, students must:

1. Go online, or contact the DMS for the dates and times that the test is administered.
2. Download or pick up the *Application for Math Placement Examination Form* from the DMS office and fill it out in entirety.
3. Present the form to the DMS to schedule the appointment.
4. The front office staff will fill in the date and time of your exam.

The Day of Your Test

Test day, students must show up with a writing utensil, government issued photo identification and/or UNLV rebel card. Backpacks, cell phones, cameras or calculators are not allowed in the testing facility. There will be locker space available to hold your belongings in. Scrap paper will be provided if needed. After being checked in, students will complete the test within the time permitted. All codes of academic integrity will be honored, and any breach of academic integrity will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.

Using Test Results for Placement

After the test is completed, the DMS will input the scores into the system. Once the scores are uploaded, the DMS will contact students via phone-call to inform them of the classes for which they are eligible to register. Students will then be able to enroll into the appropriate level class within one year of the date that the student took the placement test. If there are any questions or problems with enrollment, contact the DMS for assistance.

Contact Information

Department of Mathematical Sciences (DMS)

Location: Central Desert Complex (CDC) Building 8

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Website: <http://www.unlv.edu/math>