

# FRESNO STATE CALCULUS PLACEMENT

**Fall 2024 & Spring 2025**

## CALCULUS PLACEMENT POLICY

To enroll in MATH 75, 75A, or MATH 70, students must take the ALEKS PPL placement. It is *free* of charge for students.

Passing MATH 6 with an A or B is sufficient to enroll in MATH 75. Passing MATH 6 with a C is sufficient to enroll in MATH 75A or 70. Passing MATH 3 with a C is sufficient to enroll in MATH 70.

Students who received an A or B in high school calculus class may be allowed to enroll in MATH 75 without taking the Calculus placement.

Students who passed the AP Calculus AB test with a score of 3 or higher and submitted their official scores will receive credit for MATH 75 and may enroll in MATH 76. Students who passed the AP Calculus BC test with a score of 3 or higher and submitted their official scores will receive credit for MATH 75 and MATH 76 and may enroll in MATH 77.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR RESULTS

- If your score is 76 or higher on ALEKS PPL, you are eligible to enroll in MATH 75.
- If your score is between 66 and 75 on ALEKS PPL, you are eligible to enroll in MATH 75A.
- If your score is 51 or higher on ALEKS PPL and a biology major, you are eligible to enroll in MATH 70.
- If your score is between 40 and 65 in ALEKS PPL, you are recommended/advised to enroll in MATH 6 (Pre-calculus).
- If your score is 39 or lower on ALEKS PPL, you may want to consider enrolling in MATH 3L (for category III and IV) and/or MATH 5 (Trigonometry). Use the ALEKS pie chart to determine which class is better after consultation with your advisor.

## FRESNO STATE ALEKS PPL PORTAL

- ALEKS Placement, Preparation, and Learning (PPL) is a learning and placement program. It uses adaptive questioning to determine students' mathematical knowledge and skills quickly.
- You should take the initial knowledge check seriously. It will determine your preparation module, so do your best so you can skip topics you already know.
- The ALEKS PPL system will give you topics you are ready to study and practice which are appropriate to your current skill level. It is advised that students complete at least 70% of their ALEKS PPL pie chart before taking another proctored placement test.
- After practicing and studying at least 5 hours in the system and 48 hours after your previous placement, you may take another placement to see which course you would place in.
- If you do not place for the course you would like, continue to practice in ALEKS PPL and take another placement. You are allotted five total placement tests.

## HOW TO START A PLACEMENT TEST IN ALEKS PPL

### Set up:

1. Set up a quiet place to work. Place your laptop or tablet with a webcam on a hard surface. Chromebooks will NOT work. If you lack such a device or internet, please see the "Resources" section below to learn how to request them.
2. Don't lie down on a couch or bed while taking an exam. There is a greater chance you'll move out of the video frame or change your relative position to the webcam.
3. Turn on your web camera and make sure your face is clear. Light sources should come from behind the camera and in front of your face and make sure little light comes from behind you. Don't take an exam in a dark room. Avoid wearing baseball caps or hats that extend beyond the forehead.
4. Select a distraction-free environment for the exam. Televisions and other people in the room can draw your attention away from the screen. Other people that come into view of the webcam may also trigger flags by the automated system. Try to be in the room alone. Please inform other people that you are not to be disturbed while taking the placement test.

### What is NOT allowed during the exam:

1. No outside assistance is permitted. Each student has a unique knowledge state that consists of the math topics he/she knows, does not know, and is ready to learn. The ALEKS placement assessment determines the unique knowledge state of each student. The system can then properly place students into a course based on their math abilities. Outside assistance includes getting help from others and from other materials. Other individuals are not to be in the room while you are taking the test.
2. The webcam and lockdown browser are how students are proctored so the webcam lens must *not* be covered or otherwise obscured. The student's face must be in front of the webcam and the microphone must be on the entire time while taking the placement exams. Each video is viewed by staff in the math department.
3. No outside calculators are permitted. A calculator icon will appear on the screen when it is allowed to be used. Blank paper and a pen/pencil are allowed for students to work out problems. Use of cell phones or other electronic devices are not permitted.

### Log in and begin:

1. Enter the Fresno State ALEKS PPL Portal and log in with your Fresno State username and password.
2. To join a new course, please use registration code **6XK46-ADECA**.
3. The ALEKS placement assessment uses Lockdown Browser. After you finish the tutorial, ALEKS will ask you to download Lockdown Browser. Even if you have previously downloaded Lockdown Browser for a course or assignment, you will still need to download this version as it is unique to ALEKS PPL.
4. This placement assessment also uses Respondus Monitor. This system requires a working webcam.
5. When a student is ready to take the placement, they will choose the proctored placement link on the left-hand side of their ALEKS PPL portal.
6. ALEKS will ask the student for a proctor password. **The password is GOBULLDOGS1.**
7. If you do not show your photo ID at the beginning of each placement exam your score will be void.
8. Students have three hours to take the test. **You cannot save your work and come back to the test.**

The video will make sure that the student took the placement without improper aids. If the student had help during the exam the score will be voided. The student will be informed that their placement is valid when it is entered into the Fresno State PeopleSoft system, please check the student's portal > My Academic Records & Registration > Academic Info.

### What do you need to have?

You will need a laptop or a tablet with a webcam (Chromebooks will NOT work.) You will also need paper, pencil/pen, and Fresno State student ID or another form of photo ID. You must show a photo ID, or your score will not count.

The DISCOVERe Hub provides iPads with keyboards as well as internet hotspots to students who need them. Please read more here: <https://www.fresnostate.edu/president/discover/>