

Draft MOTION Version 1(Amend Placement by Test section):

The Faculty Senate moves to amend the 2014-15 Catalog to reflect a new Mathematics and Developmental Mathematics placement policy, as indicated below:

Effective: Fall 2014

Rationale:

The Mathematics and Developmental Education Departments are moving to a new UAF Math Placement Test administered by ALEKS PPL for placement into all core Math and DEVM classes. In order for students to be placed into a DEVM or core MATH course, students who do not meet the prerequisite (either by having taken a prerequisite course at UAF or as a transfer course, or by having AP credit) will be required to take the UAF Math Placement Test, regardless of their SAT/ACT scores. That is, this new UAF Math Placement Test will replace ACT/SAT/ACCUPLACER/COMPASS. A student's initial assessment can be done via the internet. Students who are dissatisfied with their initial placement or who want to review material in preparation for their course will have access to a six-week learning module that can be used to study and improve the test score. An additional four re-tests are available to the student at no extra charge, and the total cost of the five placement attempts and the six weeks of targeted individual study is \$25.

The Math and Developmental Math faculty believe that the new placement test system provides a clear mechanism for students to challenge a placement, and provides a means for students to refresh their memory of prerequisite material and place into a higher level math course. In addition, ALEKS PPL is specifically designed to address placement into mathematics courses and is a low stakes test. This is in marked contrast to the current assessments: SAT and ACT are both high stakes test and not designed for placement purposes; ACCUPLACER, while a low stakes test, is insufficiently refined for our placement needs. Currently ALEKS is being used by DEVM students as a homework tool that tracks improvement through their DEVM class and beyond, and the Math Bridge Program uses ALEKS modules to help prepare students for core math courses. Integrating a teaching tool into a placement tool will make for more appropriate placement of students and will allow them to begin their math classes at UAF using a tool that will support their learning throughout their math sequence. Occasionally, rural students may have limited internet access before they reach their campuses, but rural faculty have agreed ALEKS PPL will provide a superior placement method and that instructor permission can be used to permit students into classes in these cases. Students who have limited access to technology or who have disabilities will be provided with extra support or their instructor can provide alternative placement strategies.

The Mathematics Placement Committee is working with the bursar's office, the registrar's office, and the Provost's office to address mechanisms by which this \$25 fee will be paid. Currently it is expected that the cost will be passed along to students in the absence of an

identified source of internal funding for the exams. However, if the new placement policy works as expected fewer students will be repeating courses or being placed in courses that are inappropriate to their skill level, reducing their very real cost in tuition expenses and opportunity cost.

CAPS and **Bolded** - Addition

[[]] – Deletion

Pages 33-34 of current 2013-14 Catalog:

PLACEMENT BY TEST

Students need to have UAF-approved placement test scores **OR COURSE PREREQUISITES** prior to registering for [[their first-semester]] classes **REQUIRING WRITING, READING, OR MATH PLACEMENT**. Students place into **READING AND WRITING** classes in the following ways: standardized test scores (ACT Plus Writing, SAT, ASSET, or ACCUPLACER), advanced placement credits, transfer credits or prerequisite coursework. **STUDENTS PLACE INTO MATHEMATICS COURSES ONLY BY ADVANCED PLACEMENT CREDITS, APPROPRIATE TRANSFER CREDITS OR PREREQUISITE COURSEWORK, OR UAF MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT TEST (SEE MATHEMATICS SECTION, BELOW).** **MATHEMATICS** placement tests **CAN BE TAKEN UNPROCTORED ANYWHERE WITH INTERNET ACCESS**. [[and are available at every UAF community campus as well as Testing Services, the Academic Advising Center, Community and Technical College, Rural Student Services, e-Learning and Distance Education, and Northern Military Programs at Fort Wainwright, Eielson Air Force Base and Delta Career Advancement Center.]]

Students who meet basic skills standards in reading, writing and mathematics may enroll in the appropriate 100-level or above courses. Those whose scores place below these standards are required to enroll in the appropriate developmental education courses. Once these students have satisfactorily met the criteria for these courses, they may register for 100-level courses.

Students need English placement at ENGL F111X or above (including reading) in order to enroll in Perspectives on the Human Condition core courses. Students need mathematics placement at DEVM F105 or above, and ENGL F111X placement (including reading), to register for science courses.

READING AND WRITING placement exams must be taken within two calendar years prior to the start of a course; mathematics placement exams must be taken within [[one calendar year]] **EIGHTEEN MONTHS** prior. Students enrolling in developmental or lower division core courses must have completed any prerequisite courses within two calendar years of their enrollment. Academic advisors will assist with proper course placement for incoming and continuing students.

Students who enroll in a developmental or core course without meeting placement or prerequisite requirements may be withdrawn from the course through the faculty-initiated withdrawal process.

[[ENGLISH]] WRITING/READING

(We will address changes to English (Writing/Reading) placement in a later motion.)

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MATHEMATICS

Mathematics course placement varies according to the type of degree the student is planning to pursue and the corresponding math course(s) needed. (See the degree program requirements for more detail.) [[ACT Plus Writing, SAT, ACCUPLACER, ASSET, or COMPASS test scores are]] **THE UAF MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT TEST IS** used to determine math placement. Minimum test scores for placement into math and developmental math courses are listed in Table 2.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE LIMITED ACCESS OR LIMITED EXPERIENCE WITH THE INTERNET, OR DISABILITIES WHICH MAY HINDER THEIR ABILITY TO TAKE AN INTERNET BASED PLACEMENT TEST CAN GET ASSISTANCE. FOR ASSISTANCE CONTACT THE ADVISING CENTER IN FAIRBANKS, THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, OR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION OR THE STUDENT'S RURAL CAMPUS ADVISOR

[TABLE 2 TO BE CHANGED TO REFLECT POLICY CHANGE.]

Page 44 of the 2013-14 Catalog:

PLACEMENT TESTS

Test results are required for first-time degree or certificate students, transfer students with fewer than 30 acceptable credits, or students planning to take 100-level English, reading, mathematics, natural sciences core and perspectives on the human condition core courses. Results from American College Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or, for associate degree or certificate students, the ASSET, ACCUPLACER or COMPASS test must be on file with the Office of Admissions and the Registrar before you can register for classes. **RESULTS OF THE UAF MATHEMATICS PLACEMENT TEST MUST BE ON FILE WITH THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND THE REGISTRAR BEFORE YOU CAN REGISTER FOR DEVM OR MATH CLASSES.** A hold may be placed on your ability to register if you have not submitted required test scores.

Test results for English and composition must be less than two years old; for math, less than [[one year old]] **EIGHTEEN MONTHS.**

Note: Registrar's Office will also need to update applicable sections including (for example): "Applying for Admission: Certificate or Associate Degree Programs"; "Applying for Admission: Bachelor's Degree Programs."