

Nebraska Methodist College - ALEKS Math Placement Guide

Students entering the following undergraduate programs at NMC **are required** to take the ALEKS PPL math assessment:

- Traditional BSN and LPN to BSN (LPN, RN to BSN and Accelerated Nursing pathways are excluded)
- Sonography (AS only)
- Radiologic Technology (AS only)
- Healthcare Management (BS)
- Respiratory Therapy (AS only)

This requirement also applies to students transferring an equivalent math course to NMC. Additional information can be found in the [NMC Math Placement & Prior Credit Validation Policy](#).

Important to Know

- ALEKS PPL is a web-based program used to assess and enhance your math skills for healthcare programs.
- You must save one of your four assessments for a proctored test at the NMC Testing Center.
- Without a proctored assessment, you will need to purchase another license to take it.
- Working in the Prep and Learning Module is essential for improved math readiness and placement.
- Use no outside help or unauthorized calculators during assessments.
- Proctored assessment scores determine course placement.

What is ALEKS?

ALEKS Placement, Preparation, and Learning (ALEKS PPL) is a web-based program that uses artificial intelligence to map your strengths and weaknesses. After the initial assessment, it creates a personalized, self-paced learning tool to help you refresh or learn math skills.

ALEKS PPL Includes:

1. **First Assessment (At Home):** Sets your baseline math knowledge. Generally takes 60 minutes using adaptive questions. This assessment determines your current knowledge and readiness level.
2. **Prep and Learning Module:** A personalized, self-paced online review tool created based on your initial assessment. This module helps refresh previously learned concepts or address gaps in your knowledge. Spending time in this module is crucial for improving your math skills.
3. **Three Additional Home Assessments:** These optional assessments can be used for additional practice. It is recommended to spend adequate time in the Prep and Learning Module before attempting these assessments.
4. **Final Proctored Assessment (NMC Testing Center [Register Blast](#)):** Your final assessment must be proctored at the NMC Testing Center. This proctored assessment determines your official placement and course eligibility.

Important Tips:

- **Use ALEKS's built-in tools only.** Using unauthorized resources will create an inaccurate learning module, wasting your time and money.
- **Prep and Learning Module is essential, even if you reach your desired score.** Improved preparation leads to better grades and more success in your healthcare courses.
- **Use No Help:** Looking up equations, searching online, or getting help from others during the assessment negatively impacts the personalized Prep and Learning Module.
- **No Outside Calculators:** Only use calculators provided within ALEKS. Using other calculators can result in inaccurate placement and learning module recommendations.

Benefits of ALEKS PPL

- **For First-Time College Students:** ALEKS can help some students place out of program-required math courses entirely based on their proctored assessment score. This saves time and money.
- **For Transfer Students with College Math Credit:** Demonstrates retention of healthcare-required math skills. If needed, a math refresher course is available to rebuild necessary skills before the proctored assessment.
- **For All Students:** Improved placement scores lead to better course preparation, potentially higher grades, and a smoother path through required healthcare programs.

Taking the First Assessment

- **Assessment Format:** Up to 30 questions using AI to adapt to your unique knowledge set.
- **Typical Duration:** 60–90 minutes.
- **Purpose:** To establish your current knowledge level and create your personalized Prep and Learning Module.

Technical Requirements

- **No additional software needed.** Only a stable internet connection and an updated browser are required.
- **ALEKS will provide tools as needed.** No outside tools should be used.
- **Check preferred browsers on ALEKS support site:** [ALEKS Support](#)

NMC Testing Center Information

- **Proctored assessments** are conducted at the NMC Testing Center at varied times.
- **Schedule your assessment in advance** after speaking with your NMC Admissions Coordinator
- **Exceptions for proctored assessments** may be possible at other proctored locations. Contact the Director of Enrollment Services for more information.

FAQs

- **How many times can I take the assessment?** Four times total. Only the proctored assessment score counts for official placement.
- **How long are results valid?** Results are valid for 12 months.
- **How do I begin?** Speak with your NMC Admissions Coordinator.
- **What if I don't place into the course I wanted?** Use the Prep and Learning Module to improve your score before the proctored assessment.

Contact Information

- For further help, visit: [ALEKS Support](#)