
SUBJECT:	Math Placement & Prior Credit Validation Policy
RELATED POLICY:	Credit for Prior Learning Policy
REVIEWED/REVISED:	2/2020, 10/2021, 11/2024
PURPOSE:	Ensure students are placed in math courses that align with their current skill levels, supporting their academic success.
POLICY OWNER:	Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs

Mathematical proficiency is essential for success in healthcare programs, as it directly impacts clinical tasks like medication dosages, fluid rates, and interpreting diagnostic data. Assessing an incoming student's math proficiency ensures students have the foundational skills required to prevent errors and promote patient safety. By identifying a student's proficiency levels, Nebraska Methodist College (NMC) can offer appropriate coursework and support, ensuring they are prepared for advanced math demands in healthcare.

Math Placement Assessment

Students entering NMC undergraduate programs of nursing (excluding accelerated nursing and RN-BSN), sonography, radiologic technology, healthcare management, and respiratory therapy (excluding DSBS-DC, IMSC-DC, and BSRT-DC) are required to take the ALEKS PPL math assessment. This includes students who are transferring an equivalent course to NMC.

- 1. STUDENTS WITH COLLEGE MATH TRANSFER CREDIT:** Students with college transfer credit for their required math course must validate that they have retained those skills through a proctored assessment (excluding radiologic technology). This ensures student readiness for study and maximizes potential for program success.
 - If a student scores below the required cut score range for their required program course, the student will be placed into a math skills refresher course based upon the program required course (i.e., MAT 025 or MAT 098).
 - If a student scores within the cut score range for their required program course, no other course placement action is needed. However, it is strongly advised students use ALEKS PPL as a math skills refresher.
 - If a student scores above the cut score range for their required program course, no other course placement action is needed.
 - Students who fail to complete the ALEKS Assessment will be automatically registered for MAT 025 or MAT 098. Students desiring to test out of these enrolled courses must provide an ALEKS score.

- 2. STUDENTS WITH NO COLLEGE MATH:** Students who have not yet had a college math course at the required level for their program of study, will be placed into the appropriate math course based upon their final proctored assessment score (i.e., MAT 025, MAT 098, MAT 110, MAT 120).
- If a student scores below the required cut score range for their required program course, they will be placed into the appropriate math skills refresher course based on the score
 - If a student scores within the cut score range for their required program course, they will be registered for that required math course. By falling within the cut score range, it means the student is suitably ready to be successful in this course at the college level.
 - If a student scores above the cut score range for their required program course, then the student generally has two options:
 - Enroll in an appropriate math course reflecting their assessment score range; or
 - Use the Credit for Prior Learning option to receive course credit. See the next section for more details on requirements.
 - Students who fail to complete the ALEKS Assessment will be automatically registered for MAT 025 or MAT 098. Students desiring to test out of these enrolled courses must provide an ALEKS score identifying that they have achieved a proficient assessment score.

Credit for Prior Learning

NMC will award course credit for non-traditional educational experience validated by performance on approved examinations or other appropriate documentation and evaluation following its policy on Credit for Prior Learning.

MATH REFERENCE	Course Name	ALEKS Cut Score Range
Extra required learning time in ALEKS PPL learning modules and enroll in MAT 025	Basic Math / Pre-Algebra (NMC does not offer a course at this level)	0-13
MAT 025	Beginning Algebra	14-29
MAT 098	Skills: Intermediate Algebra	30-45
MAT 110	Intermediate Algebra	30-45
MAT 098	Skills: College Algebra	46-60
MAT 120	College Algebra	46-60
MAT 140	Pre-calculus (offered as needed)	61-75
MATH 180	Calculus I (offered as needed)	76-100

Administration of math assessments and evaluation procedures for granting credit uses the established NMC process of Credit for Prior Learning by "Course Challenge". Upon successful completion of a course challenge:

- Grades of "CR" will be issued for all credit.
- The course challenge must be completed prior to the start of the semester.
- The fee for a course challenge is 25% of the current tuition rate.

Students seeking credit through the "course challenge" option must complete the ALEKS PPL proctored assessment on-campus with an NMC-approved proctor. No other scores, such as online proctored scores or ALEKS PPL scores from other institutions, will be accepted. This policy ensures the highest standards of academic integrity and that students have demonstrated the necessary skills and objectives for the required course, verifying that their math proficiency is current at the start of their program.