



Your “On-Track” Guide to:

The Quantitative Reasoning Requirement and the ALEKS Math Placement Exam

ALEKS is an online, adaptive assessment and learning system that is tailored to your ability level. ALEKS includes a one year personalized learning module to allow you to be well prepared for the class into which you placed, or to help you review and retest into a higher-level class. For more information, go to www.umb.edu/testing.

Use this guide to understand what your ALEKS math placement score means and which course(s) you should take to meet your degree requirements.

Which Course Should I Take?

If your ALEKS placement results indicate more than one course, be sure you take the course appropriate for your college and major:

- » Students in the College of Management should be on the Management Math Track (MATH 115 → MATH 129 → MATH 134).
- » Students pursuing a BA degree in the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Education and Human Development, or the Global Affairs major can take MATH 114Q or MATH 115 to satisfy their quantitative reasoning requirement. Some degrees in CLA may require further coursework. Make sure to check with your department.
- » Students in the College of Science and Mathematics (pursuing a BS degree) should be on the Calculus Track (MATH 115 → MATH 130, and then either MATH 135 or MATH 140/141 or MATH 145/146).
- » Students in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences should take Statistics (nursing students take MATH 125 or another statistics course, such as EHS 280; EHS students must take EHS 280).
- » Students in the School for the Environment are required to take Statistics (ENVSCI 261, MATH 125 or equivalent). Students pursuing a BS degree are ALSO required to take Calculus and should start with the Calculus track (MATH 115 → MATH 130 → MATH 135 OR MATH 140). Students pursuing a BA degree should be on the Statistics track (MATH 114QR or MATH 115 → ENVSCI 261 or MATH 125).

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What are all of those courses?

Course Number & Name	Minimum ALEKS Score	SAT/ACT Score	Prerequisite Courses
MATH 114Q Quantitative Reasoning	35	480/17	N/A
MATH 115 College Algebra	44	520/20	N/A
MATH 125 Introductory Statistics	51	550/23	MATH 114Q or higher
MATH 129 Precalculus for Management	59	590/25	B or better in MATH 115 <i>Note: Students can receive credit for one precalculus course only, such as MATH 129 or MATH 130. See the Math Department for further advising, as a reduced credit course may be an option.</i>
MATH 130 Precalculus			
MATH 134 Managerial Calculus	66	620/26	MATH 129 or MATH 130 MATH 130 <i>Note: Students can receive credit for one calculus course only such as MATH 134, MATH 135, MATH 140, or MATH 145. See the Math Department for further advising as a reduced credit course may be an option.</i>
MATH 135 Survey of Calculus			
MATH 140 Calculus I	74	640/27	B or better in MATH 130 <i>Note: Students with grades lower than B in the prerequisite course will be dropped from the class. Students can receive credit for one calculus course only, such as MATH 134, MATH 135, MATH 140, or MATH 145. See the Math Department for further advising, as a reduced-credit course may be an option.</i>
MATH 145 Calculus I for Life Sciences			

If your ALEKS score is 34 or below, please meet with an advisor to discuss your next steps in working toward completing your QR requirement. You will likely benefit from spending more time in the learning module or having a conversation with a math faculty member to discuss your testing needs. Email uac.testing@umb.edu for additional assistance.

More on Quantitative Reasoning

How you meet the quantitative reasoning requirement depends on your college and degree program.

Students pursuing a BA degree:

» You are strongly encouraged to take MATH 114Q, Quantitative Reasoning, a course specifically designed to show students the relevance of mathematics to their lives.

Note: Only students who did not place into Math 129 or Math 130 should take Math 115, in preparation for pre-calculus.

» Another option is to take or have transferred in MATH 115, College Algebra.

» You may also take or transfer in a statistics course. If you place into and pass (or transfer in) one of the following statistics courses, you will be waived from the quantitative reasoning requirement and you will receive math distribution credit: MATH 125, SOCIOL 350, PSYCH 270, ECON 205, EOS 261.

» Students may also be waived from the quantitative reasoning requirement by placing into statistics or higher (placement alone demonstrates proficiency, but waiving Quantitative Reasoning by placement MUST be done in the Testing Center) or by showing proficiency through advanced placement or CLEP testing.

» Students pursuing a BA are encouraged to enroll in an appropriate math course by the time they have earned 30 credits.

» Economics majors may request a proctored ALEKS exam through the Testing Center to meet their pre-calculus requirement. A score of 66 or higher is needed.

Students pursuing a BS degree:

» Students in CLA and CSM must complete Calculus (MATH 135, MATH 140, or MATH 145, or the equivalent transfer course) to meet the quantitative reasoning requirement. Students pursuing a BS are strongly encouraged to enroll in appropriate math courses continuously until the math requirement for their major is satisfied.

» Students in CM must complete MATH 134 (or the equivalent transfer course).

» Students in CNHS must complete Statistics (EHS students are required to take EHS 280, Statistics for Health Professionals).