

Math Placement Test – Current Policy (March 2009)

Who needs to take the Mathematics Placement Exam?

- Any student who has never taken a mathematics or statistics course in college is required to take the Math Placement Exam. This includes transfer students whose previous mathematics or statistics courses are not *equivalent* to any WSU mathematics or statistics courses, as determined by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Developmental Education makes decisions regarding the equivalence of DEV-level transfer courses.

The following exception applies to students receiving either 27 or higher on the Math ACT or 620 or higher on the Math SAT and who do not have a high school math deficiency:

Students with Math ACT scores of at least 27 or Math SAT scores of at least 620 may register for MTH 143, MTH 145, MTH 228, MTH 257, STT 160 or STT 264.

Students with Math ACT scores of at least 27 or Math SAT scores of at least 620 intending to major in fields requiring Calculus may register for MTH 229 provided they received A's and/or B's in high school precalculus and trigonometry (these two courses may be integrated into one course at some high schools). Students must register in one of these courses no more than 1 year after graduation from high school.

- Math Placement Scores expire after 1 year. A student is required to retest if he/she has not taken a mathematics or statistics course within one year of taking the placement test.
- If it has been over 1 year since a student completed a mathematics course in college, and it was at the developmental level (DEV), he/she is required to take (or retake) the Math Placement Test.
- If it has been over 1 year since a student completed a mathematics or statistics course in college, and it was above the developmental level (DEV), it is *strongly recommended* that he/she take (or retake) the Math Placement Test. Exception: Any student who has completed a college-level calculus course at the level of MTH 229 or higher with a grade of "C" or better need not take the Math Placement Exam, but should consult the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to determine the correct placement.

Math Deficiency:

Any student who has a high school math deficiency must take MTH 126 or MTH 127*. Students with a high school math deficiency who need to take MTH 145 for their major could take MTH 126/7 *at the same time as* MTH 145.

*Acceptable alternatives to MTH 126/7 to remove a math deficiency are MTH 128/9, 130, 131, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, or 233. Students must still fulfill the proper prerequisite(s) for these courses.

Retesting:

A student may retake the test no more than 4 times per year as long as the student has not completed a mathematics, statistics or developmental math course. A student may not retest if he/she has stayed in mathematics, statistics or developmental math course past the drop date/refund date and received a grade. Students must wait at least 1 week between attempts. Retesting is preferred to be done no more than once a term. The first re test is free, additional re test(s) will need to pay a fee.

LEVEL	REQUIRED FIRST COURSE	NEXT COURSE
0	DEV 083 Basic Mathematics I	DEV 095
1	DEV 083 Basic Mathematics II DEV 093 Basic Math Skills III	DEV 095 DEV 095
2	DEV 095 Elementary Algebra	Depends on your major
3	MTH 126 Intermediate Algebra MTH 127 Accelerated Intermediate Algebra MTH 145 Mathematics and the Modern World	Depends on your major Depends on your major None
4	MTH 128 College Algebra MTH 129 Accelerated College Algebra MTH 130 Precalculus MTH 143 Quantitative Reasoning STT 160 Statistical Concepts STT 264 Elementary Statistics I	Depends on your major Depends on your major MTH 131 MTH 243 None STT 265
5	MTH 131 Trigonometry MTH 228 Calculus for the Management, Life, and Social Sciences MTH 257 Discrete Mathematics for Computing	MTH 229 None None
7	MTH 229 Calculus I	MTH 230

- For levels 3, 4 and 5, the selection will depend on your major.
- If you score a 7, and you have completed a year of calculus in high school and earned an A or B, ask your advisor or the Math Dept. about testing out of MTH 229 and starting in MTH 230 – Calculus II.