

Math Placement and MSU's Math Placement Exam (MPLEX)

Math and several other subjects at MSU require a specific math placement. MSU utilizes these standards to ensure students have the math skills necessary to succeed in their program of study. When a student has a math placement lower than the initial starting point for their intended major, students will complete prerequisite coursework. If appropriate, some students will be asked to take MSU's math placement test, or MPLEX.

Math placement is determined by one of three measures

- ACT or SAT math score
- Prerequisite course (including transfer courses with appropriate scores/grades)
- MSU's math placement exam (MPLEX)

Your Math Placement

Your current placement, which is based on the ACT or SAT math scores sent to MSU, is Level Two. All students must complete at least one Core-level math course. Core-level math courses start at Level Three. Some majors, however, require additional math courses beyond Level Three. Your specific math requirements will depend upon the major you ultimately choose to pursue at MSU.

While your initial placement has placed you in a developmental math course, we want to assure you that you will be able to register for a full-time course load that allows you to explore your interests.

Additional ACT/SAT scores, AP, IB, Dual Enrollment Info

If you have additional ACT or SAT test scores, or if you will earn college-level credit for a math course, please be sure to request that this information is sent to the MSU Admissions Office. Additionally, you are welcome to call the Academic Advising Center to verify if this will change your math placement. Our phone number is 406-994-3532.

MSU's Math Placement Exam or MPLEX

Should you take the MPLEX?

The MPLEX is unique to MSU and students are able to take the MPLEX at orientation. Students who meet any of the following criteria should plan to take the MPLEX:

1. Students without ACT or SAT scores
2. Students who took the ACT or SAT in their junior year and then took another math course in their senior year
3. Students who believe their initial placement isn't a true reflection of their math ability

About the MPLEX

The MPLEX is an adaptive test that responds to student answers to determine a student's math placement. Students may use a non-graphing calculator during the exam, which will be provided for use at orientation. Students receive their MPLEX results immediately after finishing the exam.

Students who need to take an MPLEX after orientation can schedule an individual MPLEX with Testing Services. Students must pay the Testing Services fee (\$15) and they must schedule their appointment in advance by calling 406-994-6984.

Preparing for the MPLEX with EdReady

MSU offers EdReady, a free online resource offering tutorials and practice problems aligned with MSU's MPLEX levels and math courses. Refreshing your math skills in EdReady can help you either place into a higher math level or have greater success in your first MSU math course. You can learn more about and enroll in EdReady [here](#).

If you have any questions about the MPLEX and your math placement, please call us at 406-994-3532. One of our academic advisors will be able to assist you.