

# Frequently Asked Questions

## About Placement Testing at Kishwaukee College

### Do I need to take the placement test?

You may not need to take all or part of the placement test based on ACT and/or SAT scores or cumulative high school GPA (within 3 years). Please visit [www.kish.edu/placement](http://www.kish.edu/placement) for more information. Placement for English and math are determined separately.

### What must I do before taking the placement test?

Prior to testing, submit a Student Information Form\* and your high school transcripts to Student Services. To schedule an appointment for the placement test, please call Student Services at 815-825-9375.

\*Student Information Form is available online at [www.kish.edu/apply](http://www.kish.edu/apply) or in Student Services.

### Can you describe the placement test?

Kishwaukee College uses ACCUPLACER, an adaptive, computerized placement test.

- Most students will begin testing with elementary algebra. The elementary algebra test consists of 12 multiple choice questions. Depending on the elementary algebra score, some students may be routed to the arithmetic test with an additional 17 questions. Some students may be routed to the college-level math test consisting of an additional 20 questions. Students with high ACT/SAT scores who desire upper-level math courses may begin at the college-level math test (20 multiple-choice questions).
- The writing (WritePlacer) test requires students to write a 300-600 word essay. The results of the writing test will be used to determine whether a student takes the reading test.
- The reading comprehension test consists of 20 multiple choice questions.

For more information about the placement test, visit [www.kish.edu/placement](http://www.kish.edu/placement).

### What do I need to bring?

A photo ID is the only thing required. No other belongings (including cell phones) will be allowed in the testing area.

### Can I use a calculator for the math portion?

The online test will make a calculator available for questions that permit calculator use. No hand-held calculators are allowed.

### How long does the test take?

The math and reading tests are not timed. You are encouraged to take as much time as you need to complete those exams. The writing test has a 90-minute time limit. You should allow at least 2 1/2 hours if you are taking all 3 tests.

### Where do I go to take the placement test?

Testing Services is located in room A1300.

### When will I know my results?

Upon completion of the exam you will receive a printed score report with your placement for each section you tested. Scores are uploaded into the data system within 24 hours of testing to allow for registration.

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### **Should I study before taking my placement test?**

Yes! Placement tests are important because they determine whether you start at college-level or developmental courses. Reviewing math formulas, grammar rules and reading basics can refresh your skills and build confidence for testing. Please visit our website at [www.kish.edu/placement](http://www.kish.edu/placement) for sample questions and for instructions on how to download the free ACCUPLACER study app.

### **How long are my placement test scores valid?**

Placement test scores are valid for 3 years. If no coursework is taken within 3 years of testing, you must complete a new placement test.

**What if I need testing accommodations?** Disability Services approves all accommodations based on documentation of your disability. Please contact the Disability Services office at (815) 825-2931 for an appointment prior to testing.

### **What if I'm not happy with my placement?**

There is an appeal process for both math and English. Complete details are posted at [www.kish.edu/placement](http://www.kish.edu/placement). Each exam may only be retested once for a \$10 fee.

Studying prior to the initial placement exam is encouraged. This ensures accurate placement and saves the time and money of the appeal process.