

Frequently Asked Questions about Placement at Kishwaukee College

What must I do before taking the placement test?

Prior to testing, you must apply and submit your transcripts to Kishwaukee College. Please submit your official high school transcripts to transcripts@kish.edu. To schedule an appointment for the placement test and advising, please call Student Services One-Stop at 815-825-9375.

Do I need to take the placement test?

If you have taken the ACT or SAT in the last three years or have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, you may not need to take the placement test. Please visit <https://kish.edu/student-services/additional-services/testing-services/placement.php> for more information.

Can you describe the placement test?

Kishwaukee College uses ACCUPLACER, an adaptive, computerized placement test with multiple-choice questions. Most students need to take all three sections of the placement test — math, writing and reading. Most students will start with Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics (QAS) and then may move into Advanced Algebra and Functions (AAF). The WritePlacer test requires students to write a 300-600-word essay. The results of the WritePlacer test will be used to determine whether a student takes the Reading test. The Reading test requires students to read the material and answer multiple-choice questions. For more information about the placement test, visit <https://kish.edu/student-services/additional-services/testing-services/placement.php>.

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?

No. The computer will make a calculator available for questions that permit calculator use.

How long does the test take?

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

Where do I go to take the placement test?

Testing Services is located in the C-wing, room C1203.

When will I know my results?

Immediately upon completion of the exam, you will receive a printed score report with your placement for each section you tested. Writing exams may generate pending scores. Once scores have been returned, students' records will be updated, and scores will be made available.

How long are my placement test scores valid?

Placement test scores are valid for three years. You must complete a new placement test if no coursework is taken within three years of testing.

Should I study before taking my placement test?*

Yes! You are encouraged to study for the ACCUPLACER placement test because it determines 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 <https://kish.edu/student-services/additional-services/testing-services/placement.php> for sample questions.

What if I need testing accommodations?

Disability Services approves all accommodations based on documentation of your accommodation. Please contact Disability Services at 815-825-2931 for an appointment prior to testing.

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What if I'm not happy with my placement?

There is an appeal process for both math and English. Complete details are posted at <https://kish.edu/student-services/additional-services/testing-services/placement.php>. You may re-test each ACCUPLACER section one time for a \$10 fee per test. Please visit the website for the re-test process for math and English.

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