

Shippensburg University -- Placement Testing

Options for Students Testing at Level 2 in Mathematics

You have tested into math **Level 2**. As a result, you may need to improve your skills in math so that you are adequately prepared for an algebraically intensive college-level mathematics class.

If your major only requires MAT 105 Mathematics for Liberal Studies, MAT 110 Fundamentals of Mathematics I, or MAT 117 Applied Statistics (this includes: **BA majors, Exercise Science, or Social Work**) no further action is necessary. However, changing majors to one that requires MAT 140 (A or B) College Algebra, MAT 175 Pre-calculus, MAT 181 Applied Calculus or MAT 211 Calculus I, will necessitate completion of MAT 050 before taking any of the above listed math class. You can review each major's math requirement by accessing their departmental website.

If your major requires MAT 140 (A or B) College Algebra, MAT 175 Pre-calculus, MAT 181 Applied Calculus or MAT 211 Calculus I (includes: **Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math, Economics, Computer Science, Teacher Education (middle school certification), or Business**) you must complete your remediation before you will be allowed to take any algebraically based college-level math course. Your remediation should begin your first semester. Otherwise, it may begin in a later semester (typically your second year).

The most common path to remediation involves successful completion (with a "C" grade or better) of a developmental math course. There are other recommended options that you may complete prior to coming to campus. This is the recommended strategy. The options are described below:

TO IMPROVE YOUR MATHEMATICAL SKILLS, YOU HAVE FOUR OPTIONS:

Prior to starting classes:

1. Enroll in MAT 050 Developmental Mathematics at Shippensburg University during summer.

OR...

2. Enroll in a course equivalent to MAT 050 Developmental Math at another college or university.

OR...

3. Review and pass the waiver exam.

OR...

Once classes have started:

4. Remediate by taking MAT 050 Developmental Math during the regular academic year at Shippensburg.

Details for each option are listed below:

OPTION #1 (prior to coming to campus): Enroll in MAT 050 Developmental Mathematics at Shippensburg University during the summer.

In the summer, the university may offer MAT 050: Developmental Mathematics either online or in a traditional face to face format in Term V. This is a basic algebra course. Earning a "C" in this course is similar to passing the placement test into a higher level. You will not be required to retest. Passing MAT 050 makes you eligible for MAT140A College Algebra (4 cr). If you receive a grade below a "C" in MAT 050, you will need to repeat the class. Schedule early as

classes may be cancelled due to a lack of enrollment. If MAT 050 is strongly recommended for the summer based on your major, you can access additional information through the placement testing website (www.ship.edu/testing).

OPTION #2 (prior to coming to campus): Enroll in a course similar to MAT 050 Developmental Mathematics at another college or university.

MAT 050 is a basic algebra or algebra I course. Eligible courses are listed on a separate page. If you take a course at another institution, you must earn a grade of "C" or better in this course. (If you receive less than a "C" in the course, this will not satisfy your remediation requirement.) Earning a "C" is similar to passing the placement test into Level 3. You will then register for the appropriate college-level math class, depending on your major. You will not be required to retake the placement test.

Please complete a Placement Testing Transcript Request Form found on the testing website. This enables our office to send the necessary documentation to the appropriate college official where you are scheduling this course.

A transcript of your grade must be sent to the Office of Admissions, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA 17257. Check with the Placement Testing Office before you schedule a course at a community college. Send transcripts as early as possible.

OPTION #3 (prior to coming to campus): Review and pass the waiver exam.

The mathematics department offers students a chance to satisfy their remediation requirement by passing a waiver exam which is equivalent to the final exam for MAT 050. Information about the pre-test waiver exam along with a sample exam can be found at <http://webspace.ship.edu/kjpres/MAT050/>. To prepare for the exam, students can work with their own private tutor in their hometown or use the MyMathTest online program for structured review. Information on the MyMathTest review program is available at the above link as well. When a student is prepared for the waiver exam, they need to contact, Pam McLaughlin, at (717) 477-1431 in the Mathematics Department Office at Shippensburg University to schedule an appointment to come in and take the waiver exam.

OPTION #4 (once classes have started): Remediate at Shippensburg University.

You will enroll, at the appropriate time, in MAT 050 Developmental Math. This is a basic algebra class. If you take MAT 050 at Shippensburg University, you must earn a grade of "C" or better in this course. (If you receive less than a "C" in the course, this will not satisfy your remediation requirement and you will be expected to repeat the class your very next semester at SHIP.) Earning a "C" is similar to passing the placement test at the college-low level. You will then schedule the appropriate college-level math class, depending on your major. You will not be required to retake the placement test.

*****Please note that developmental courses, whether taken at Shippensburg University or elsewhere, do not count toward graduation.*****