

# Guide for FIU Global First Year ALEKS Testing

## Section 1: Pre-arrival

To ensure that students are correctly placed in their mathematics courses, **all** Global First Year students must take the ALEKS test upon arrival to the university. The assessment is a web-based, artificially intelligent system that uses adaptive questioning to determine each individual student's knowledge of mathematics. This information is used to place students in a class for which they have sufficient background. Since each math class assumes prior knowledge, it is extremely important for students' success to properly identify their math proficiency level. All *incoming freshmen*, regardless of AP, IB, dual enrollment, and CLEP credits, and all *incoming transfer students with no college credit in math* must take the ALEKS placement test. ALEKS scores expire after one year; there are fees to retest.

Preparation for ALEKS Test Before Arriving on Campus:

- ✓ Students may prepare for the ALEKS Assessment by taking the free preparation courses offered on the ALEKS website: <https://www.aleks.com/>
  - ❖ Students will need to sign up for a free trial with a personal email and will then be able to select the topics that they would like to review the most. **We encourage students to study both basic and advanced concepts so that they can accurately show their knowledge for placement.**
- ✓ Sign-up Instructions:
  - ❖ Write First Name, Last Name and Input a Personal Email for use with ALEKS
  - ❖ Select 'College or K-12 Student (Personal Preparation)' for the *Independent User Type*
  - ❖ Select 'Higher Education- Math' in the *Choose your Market* menu
  - ❖ When selecting a course, this depends on the student's needs/level. The real ALEKS Test that they will take on campus gets progressively harder depending on how successfully a student completes each set of math problems. It starts with basic math/algebra and moves up to advanced calculus. To most accurately show their ability, high level Math students may want to prepare more basic math concepts to ensure that they pass the basic questions to get to the more advanced math questions and be placed in a higher class. If a student feels that they are already strong in the basic math and algebra, they can do the 'Prep for Pre-calc' or 'Prep for Calculus' course depending on their current level to attempt higher math placement.
  - ❖ *Students may create multiple accounts to review different math concepts if they use a different personal email for each ALEKS trial practice account.*

### SIGN UP FOR AN ALEKS FREE TRIAL ACCOUNT

The screenshot shows a web form titled "SIGN UP FOR AN ALEKS FREE TRIAL ACCOUNT". The form is titled "Enter Your Personal Information" and includes a note that "All fields are required." The form contains the following fields:

- First Name: [Text input field]
- Last Name: [Text input field]
- E-mail: [Text input field]
- Verify E-mail: [Text input field]
- Independent User Type: [Dropdown menu with "(Choose one)" selected]
- Choose your market: [Dropdown menu with "Higher Education | Math" selected]
- Select a course: [Dropdown menu with "(Choose one)" selected]

At the bottom of the form is a red button labeled "» CONTINUE".