

## What is on an ACCUPLACER Test?

ACCUPLACER tests use a multiple-choice format. There's no time limit on the tests, so you can focus on doing your best to demonstrate your skills.

ACCUPLACER uses the latest computer-adaptive technology. Questions are presented based on your individual skill level. Your response to each question determines the difficulty level of the next question. It's important to give each question as much thought as you can before selecting your answer.

Glen Oaks Tutoring and Testing Department strongly advises students to review/study before taking the ACCUPLACER placement test especially if you haven't taken any math classes recently, or your math skills are not that strong to begin with, or if you haven't been in school in a while. Another good reason to prepare for the ACCUPLACER is that you will learn the format of the questions and have a chance to review practice questions. Go to [www.accuplacer.org](http://www.accuplacer.org) then click on the "Information for Students" link. On that page will be a number of free resources to help you prepare for the test. You can also do a web-search for the word "Accuplacer" and there you will also find a number of study guides and practice tests. Be advised that not all of these sites are free and may be full of advertising!

### Arithmetic

The Arithmetic test, comprised of 17 questions, measures your ability to perform basic arithmetic operations and to solve problems that involve fundamental arithmetic concepts. There are three types of Arithmetic questions:

- **Operations with whole numbers and fractions:** topics included in this category are addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, recognizing equivalent fractions and mixed numbers, and estimating.
- **Operations with decimals and percents:** topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with decimals. Percent problems, recognition of decimals, fraction and percent equivalencies, and problems involving estimation are also given.
- **Applications and problem solving:** topics include rate, percent, and measurement problems, simple geometry problems, and distribution of a quantity into its fractional parts.

### Elementary Algebra

The Elementary Algebra test, comprised of 12 questions, measures your ability to perform basic algebraic operations and to solve problems involving elementary algebraic concepts. There are three types of Elementary Algebra questions:

- **Operations with integers and rational numbers:** topics include computation with integers and negative rationals, the use of absolute values, and ordering.
- **Operations with algebraic expressions:** topics include the evaluation of simple formulas and expressions, adding and subtracting monomials and polynomials, multiplying and dividing

monomials and polynomials, the evaluation of positive rational roots and exponents, simplifying algebraic fractions, and factoring.

- **Solution of equations, inequalities, and word problems:** topics include solving linear equations and inequalities, solving quadratic equations by factoring, solving verbal problems presented in an algebraic context, including geometric reasoning and graphing, and translating written phrases into algebraic expressions.

### College-Level Math

The College-Level Math test, comprised of 20 questions, measures your ability to solve problems that involve college-level mathematics concepts. There are five types of College-Level Math questions:

- **Algebraic operations:** topics include simplifying rational algebraic expressions, factoring, expanding polynomials, and manipulating roots and exponents.
- **Solutions of equations and inequalities:** topics include the solution of linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, equation systems, and other algebraic equations.
- **Coordinate geometry:** topics include plane geometry, the coordinate plane, straight lines, conics, sets of points in the plane, and graphs of algebraic functions.
- **Applications and other algebra topics:** topics include complex numbers, series and sequences, determinants, permutations and combinations, fractions and word problems.
- **Functions and trigonometry:** topics include polynomials, algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic and trigonometric functions.

### Reading Comprehension

The Reading Comprehension test, comprised of 20 questions, measures your ability to understand what you read, to identify main ideas and to make inferences. You need to distinguish between direct statements and secondary or supporting ideas.

### Sentence Skills

The Sentence Skills test, comprised of 20 questions, measures your understanding of sentence structure — what makes a sentence complete and clear. Some questions deal with the logic of the sentence, and others with the relationships between two sentences.