

College Algebra Proficiency Testing Policy

Effective September 1, 2019

Some Albion College majors, minors and programs state a mathematics cognate of “College Algebra Proficiency”. Normally, a student demonstrates College Algebra proficiency by accomplishing any one of the following:

- Completing Math 120: College Algebra OR Math 125: Precalculus OR any Calculus course at Albion College
- Transferring credit for any one of the above listed courses from another college or university
- Scoring high enough on an AP or IB exam to earn AP or IB credit for any Calculus course as described in the Albion College AP/IB credit policy

Please note that simply completing coursework in high school and completing the online placement test for enrollment at Albion are not sufficient to demonstrate proficiency.

The normal course of action is that a student takes the math class in which they are placed. However, it is understood that some students who complete a course in Calculus in high school and/or place into a course higher than College Algebra via the online placement test may possess sufficient algebra skills to demonstrate proficiency at the College Algebra level. For such students, the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science (DMCS) offers a way to demonstrate College Algebra proficiency by exam, provided the student plans to pursue a course of study for which proficiency by exam is acceptable. **Please note that proficiency testing is open only to students who have completed Calculus in high school and/or have been placed into a course above College Algebra via the normal Albion College math placement process at their time of entrance to the College. Furthermore, proficiency by exam is only acceptable for majors or minors housed in the Department of Economics and Management.**

The following requirements apply to proficiency testing.

- The student has completed Calculus in high school and/or has been placed into a course above College Algebra via the normal Albion College math placement process at their time of entrance to the College
- The student intends to pursue a major or minor housed in the Department of Economics and Management for which proficiency by exam is acceptable
- The exam is administered by an on-campus proctor designated by the DMCS
- The exam is strictly pass/fail
- The student may sit for the proficiency exam at most once

Please direct questions about proficiency testing to mathplacement@albion.edu .