

Frequently Asked Questions of the Mathematics Skills Test

Winter 2024

Where does the test take place?

The Mathematics Skills Test takes place on-campus in St. Catharines in MCJ 430 (Mackenzie Chown J-Block Room 430 on the 4th floor) at specific testing times (10:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM) for Wednesday, January 3rd, Thursday, January 4th, and Friday January 5th, 2024. [You must register for a testing time.](#)

When I open Möbius for the first time, there are two tests available: Student Readiness Test, and the Practice Test. Are both tests mandatory?

No. The Readiness Test is needed to be completed before attempting the Practice Test, as it helps ensure your system is configured properly to run Möbius and to practice some Möbius syntax. You are not required to take either test before attempting the Skills Test. However, it is strongly recommended that you complete the Readiness Test and the Practice Test before attempting the Mathematics Skills Test Winter 2024. There is no time limit on the Readiness Test, but the Practice Test has a 120-minute time limit, to help students prepare for a timed exam. Grades are not counted for either the Practice or Readiness tests.

What should I bring to the test?

You should bring a pencil, an eraser as well as your student ID.

What aids are permitted during the test?

We will provide scrap paper and the Möbius syntax guide. No other aids, including calculators, are permitted.

Can we see what questions we got wrong, and are solutions provided?

You will be able to see which questions you got wrong, however, correct answers and/or solutions are not provided. Correct answers for the Practice Test and Readiness Test are available either by reviewing your test at the end or by going through the gradebook.

How long does the test take?

The Skills Test has a time limit of 120 minutes. It is possible for you to finish a test in less than that time.

What happens if time runs out and I have not finished my test?

At the end of the time limit, you will be provided with a short grace period in which to complete your current question and then click GRADE. You will not be able to complete additional questions once the time is up.

What if I fail the test on my first attempt?

For students unable to pass after their first attempt, there are limited opportunities to write the test again after the start of classes. Please contact Neil Marshall nmarshall@brocku.ca for details and to book a second attempt.

Will my grade count as part of my Math 1P05 mark?

You only need to pass the test and the grade obtained will not be counted as part of your mark in the course.

What happens if I fail the mathematics skills test?

Students who are unable to pass the test will be deregistered from Math 1P01 or Math 1P05 after the course drop date (Friday, January 19, 2024). Students who do not pass are encouraged to take Math 1P20: Introduction to Mathematics which is a preparatory course for Math 1P01 or Math 1P05. Students who achieve a grade of 80% or higher in Math 1P20 are exempt from future skills tests. Students who fail the Skills test are eligible again to take the test in future offerings of the Mathematics Skills Test (e.g., August 2024 or January 2025).

Where can I go if I need help accessing a Practice Test, or if I need help with the test material?

For technical assistance with Möbius, please first consult the [Möbius Technical Issues FAQ](#). If the steps there fail, you can contact Neil Marshall by email at nmarshall@brocku.ca.

For assistance with test material, consult the [review resources](#) and [the posted workshop video](#). This is a test on prerequisite knowledge for calculus. Students who struggle with the material are strongly encouraged to take Math 1P20 before taking Math 1P05, as it is a preparatory course for Math 1P05. Obtaining a grade of 80% or higher in Math 1P20 exempts you from the skills test.

Are there any exemptions to the Mathematics Skills Test?

Nearly all incoming students in either Math 1P01 or Math 1P05 must pass the test. There are only limited exemptions to the test: having previously passed the test, having credit in Math 1P01/1P05 (or equivalent), or having a grade of 80% or higher in Math 1P20. There are no other exemptions to the test. Please note that Math 1P97 is not an equivalent course to Math 1P01 or Math 1P05 as it has no trigonometry and is a far easier course. If you qualify for any of the exemptions, you must contact Neil Marshall (nmarshall@brocku.ca) and confirm that you are exempt.

I have accommodations through the Student Accessibility Centre. How do I arrange for accommodations for the Skills Test?

We can work with you and your case manager to address such issues. Please contact Neil Marshall via email nmarshall@brocku.ca and have your case manager confirm your accommodations with him.