

Proper Placement in the Health Careers Pathway MATH 081/100

MATH 100 is offered in two ways: As a stand-alone course taken on its own, or as a corequisite pair, taken in conjunction with a support course. Please carefully consider the following to ensure that you have the greatest chance at success!

What is a Corequisite Course? MATH 081 is a 2-credit support course that is taken during the same semester as MATH 100. The goal in MATH 081 is to provide students exposure to or reminders about the fundamental topics and techniques in mathematics that are necessary for success in MATH 100. MATH 081 meets during the first 12 weeks of the semester and the MATH 100 section that pairs with it, meets during the last 7 weeks of the semester. Thus, as a connected pair, they run concurrently for 5 weeks.

Who Should Take the Corequisite Pair of Courses? (081 and 100 together)

- Students who struggled to understand the concepts taught in previous math courses (below 70% retention on tests).
- Students who need to refine and sharpen their arithmetic skills, such as working with fractions.
- Students that have not yet successfully completed through Pre-Algebra.
- Students who may benefit from additional instruction and practice in a structured setting.
- Students that would like to increase their confidence and their capacity to learn mathematical concepts.

Who Might Be Successful in The Stand-Alone Course? (100 only)

- Students that have already taken Algebra I and above.
- Students that were relatively successful in previous math courses (75% or above on tests).
- Students who feel fairly confident in their ability to learn math with adequate instruction, time, preparation, and practice.
- Students who are willing to independently seek out extra support if needed.
- Students who feel fairly confident in their understanding of the foundational skills that are necessary for success in MATH 100 (see Prerequisite Skills Quiz on p. 2).

Potential Consequences of Misplacement:

- **Underprepared for MATH 100** - If you place yourself in a stand-alone course and are underprepared in the foundational skills, you may become overwhelmed or struggle to keep up.
- **Overprepared for MATH 081** - If you place yourself in the corequisite support course and don't actually need it, you may lose interest or motivation to complete assignments.

ALEKS Placement Test (PPL) – If you would like to assess your current skill level in math, you have the option of taking a virtual placement test via this link: www.kvcc.edu/services/testing/placement.php. An ALEKS score of at least 14 is suggested to be successful in MATH 100. Upon completion of this test, you will also gain access to individualized learning modules where you can review topics and increase your content knowledge.

Prerequisite Skills Quiz – To take MATH 100 as a stand-alone course, students should be able to confidently complete the quiz below, showing work to support their answers. A calculator should be the only aid utilized. Check your solutions below. If you are comfortable with these tasks and get most of them right, you may not need the support course. If the concepts are unfamiliar and/or you get several of them wrong, you may want to consider taking MATH 081 along with MATH 100.

Questions:
1. Round the number 2456.13879 to the nearest hundredth.
2. Multiply: $\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{10}{21}$
3. If there are 12 inches in a foot, how many feet are in 48 inches?
4. Convert $\frac{3}{8}$ to a decimal and a percent.
5. Convert 0.6 to a reduced fraction.

MATH 081/100 Course Coordinator – Please reach out to Amy Longcore at alongcore@kvcc.edu if you have further questions.

Actions for Students Questioning Placement:

- **Talk to Your Instructor** – If the semester begins and you think you might be misplaced, please reach out to your instructor so you can make that determination together. Some schedule adjustments may require your instructor to submit additional paperwork to authorize changes.
- **Adding MATH 081** – Students that signed up for MATH 100 during the first 7 weeks of the semester that find themselves underprepared, may still be able to add MATH 081 that semester. They would need to drop the stand-alone course and add the corequisite pair instead. This would be two new CRN #'s. Students that signed up for MATH 100 during the second 7 weeks of the semester would not have this option because most of MATH 081 would already be complete.
- **Dropping MATH 081** – If you begin in the support course and find yourself not needing it, you can drop the pair of courses and add the stand-alone course instead (one new CRN #).
- **What if even MATH 081 is too difficult?**
 - **Option 1:** Drop/withdraw from the pair of courses and work independently in ALEKS PPL modules or with our math coach to build skills (a less structured approach).
 - **Option 2:** Complete the free Gateway to College Math Program (a structured 6-week course with an instructor). Visit <https://www.kvcc.edu/math/> for more information.

Solutions to the Prerequisite Skills Quiz:

1. 2456.14 2. $\frac{5}{28}$ 3. 4 feet 4. 0.375 and 37.5% 5. $\frac{3}{5}$