Proper Placement in the College Algebra/Precalculus/Calculus Pathway
MATH 099/150

MATH 150 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 099 is a 3-credit support course that is taken concurrently with MATH 150. The goal in MATH 099 is to provide students exposure to or reminders about the topics and techniques in mathematics that are necessary for success in College Algebra. MATH 099 is split into several units that mirror the units in MATH 150. The practice with foundational skills in MATH 099 will occur just in time for those skills to be utilized in deeper MATH 150 applications.

Who Should Take the Corequisite Pair of Courses? (099 and 150 together)

- Students who struggled to understand the content taught in previous math courses (below 70% retention on tests).
- Students who need to refine and sharpen their algebra skills.
- Students that have not yet successfully completed through Algebra II.
- 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? (150 only)

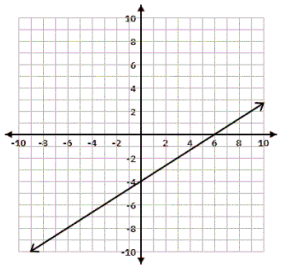
- Students that have already taken Precalculus and above.
- Students that were relatively successful in previous math courses (75% or above on tests).
- Students who feel fairly confident in their ability to learn math with adequate instruction, time, preparation, and practice.
- Students who are willing 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 150 (see Prerequisite Skills Quiz on p. 2).

Potential Consequences of Misplacement:

- **Underprepared for MATH 150** - If you place yourself in the stand-alone course and are underprepared in the foundational skills, you may become overwhelmed or struggle to keep up.
- **Overprepared for MATH 099** - If you place yourself in the corequisite support course and don't actually need it, you may lose interest or motivation to complete assignments.
- **Taking a Class Unnecessarily** - If your program does not require you to take MATH 150 but you are using it as a path to get to MATH 156 or above, you may want to consider taking the ALEKS Placement Test to determine if you can test directly into those courses. The minimum ALEKS score for MATH 156 or 158, is 61. The minimum ALEKS score for MATH 160, is 76.

ALEKS Placement Test – 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 46 is suggested to be successful in MATH 150. Upon completion of this test, you will also gain access to individualized learning modules where you can increase your content knowledge.

Prerequisite Skills Quiz – To take MATH 150 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. If you are comfortable with these tasks and get most of them right, you may not need the coreq. If the concepts are unfamiliar or you get several wrong, you may want to add MATH 099.

Questions:	**Solutions:**
1. Solve: $3(x-4)+2=5x-7$	$x=-1.5$
2. Factor: $2x^2-7x-15$	$(x-5)(2x+3)$
3. Simplify using the Order of Operations: $\frac{6+4(5-2)^2}{3(2)}$	7
4. Find the equation of the line passing through (4, -6) and (6, 3).	$y=4.5x-24$
5. The function $S(t)=4.2t-8,441.1$ gives the number of streaming subscribers in millions over time. Find and interpret $S(2025)$.	In 2025, there are 63,900,000 streaming subscribers.
6. Simplify using the Properties of Exponents: $\frac{12(a^{-2}b)^6}{(2a^3b)^2}$	$\frac{3b^4}{a^{18}}$
7. Subtract $3x+9$ from x^2-5x.	x^2-8x-9
8. Multiply: $(2x-5)(4x+3)$	$8x^2-14x-15$
9. Find the domain and range of $y=3x+5$.	$D:(-\infty,\infty)$ $R:(-\infty,\infty)$
10. Graph: $2x-3y=12$	

MATH 099/150 Course Coordinators – If you have further questions about either of these courses, please reach out to Kelly Digby at kdigby@kvcc.edu or Jon Stasiuk at jstasiuk@kvcc.edu.

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 099** – Drop the stand-alone course and add the pair of courses (two new CRN #'s).
- **Dropping MATH 099** – Drop the pair of courses and add the stand-alone course (one new CRN #).
- **What if even MATH 099 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.